

## Car patroller heard radio call in early hours and spotted suspect



Security guard Danny Bedran, 41, disarmed a man brandishing a large kitchen knife. Picture: Terry Applin

# Security guard tackles man with 'huge' knife

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A ROVING security guard tackled a man reported as having a knife in his pocket and held him down while police were called.

Danny Bedran was patrolling Brighton by car when a shop owner crackled over the radio to say a man with a huge knife in his jacket had just been in his shop.

The 41-year-old works for Pagoda Security Services, part of the expanding industry of private companies providing ad-hoc security to shops and venues around Brighton.

He was on duty with another guard, driving west along

### background

A fluctuating list of security companies provide ad-hoc security support to venues and shops in Brighton.

Their guards are typically stationed in cars roaming around town kitted out with first-aid and other equipment.

In January the Brighton and Hove Business Crime Reduction Partnership launched an accreditation scheme to help regulate the so-called mobile support units.

The scheme has three levels – bronze, silver and gold, with requirements ranging from first-aid training to helping someone who may be a target of sexual violence.

Western Road in the early hours of last Monday, when he heard the call from the shop-owner at Three 2 Four convenience store.

They stopped to talk to the shop owner for more infor-

mation before driving on and eventually seeing a potential match in Brunswick Square.

He said: "I was just about to say to him, 'Excuse me, any chance for a chat?' and before I had a chance to say

that I saw a massive knife sticking out of the pocket of his jacket.

"The blade was pointing towards his face. I did not need to say anything else after that – I just grabbed the knife and chucked it on the floor.

"He started getting fidgety so I restrained him and put him on the floor."

Mr Bedran, who was wearing a stab vest, added: "I would never forgive myself if I knew that I saw him and saw the knife and did not do anything about it, and then I heard in the morning that someone had been stabbed."

His employer was the first firm to achieve gold status under an accreditation scheme started in January by the Brighton and Hove Business Crime Reduction

Partnership. It was started to regulate the growing number of mobile security units and help venues judge which ones to use.

Pagoda boss Lee Craig said Mr Bedran's actions were an example of the "good, yet dangerous work security providers assist with and get involved with to help protect the city and its streets".

Police later arrested a man.

A police spokesman said: "Jorge Franco Pedro, 38, a chef, of Garden Close, Sompting, has been charged with possessing an offensive weapon in a public place following an incident in Brunswick Place, Hove, around 3.40am on Monday, June 8. He was bailed to appear at Brighton Magistrates' Court on July 9."

## Pair re-bailed as police continue enquiries

A MILLIONAIRE businessman and his foreman have been re-bailed after being arrested on suspicion of manslaughter by gross negligence after a carpenter's fatal fall.

In February The Argus exclusively revealed devel-

oper Mike Holland, owner of Hove-based Cherrywood Investments, was questioned by officers over the death of Dave Clark, who fell 20ft at Stanmer Park on September 30.

Sussex Police and the Health and Safety Executive

are jointly investigating the death. Mr Holland's site foreman, Grant Oakes, 44, from Hove, was also quizzed.

They were both released on bail until the end of March and were re-bailed until Wednesday. Yesterday a police spokesman told The

Argus the pair had been re-bailed again until July 23 and 24 while enquiries continue.

Emergency services battled to save the 55-year-old man from Hove after he was injured at a stable block next to Stanmer House. Mr Clark was airlifted to St George's

Hospital in Tooting, London, from the park in Brighton in a critical condition and died a month later. Nearly a thousand people attended a memorial service in Hove and a football match in his honour will take place next month. Visit [therocks.co.uk](http://therocks.co.uk).