

A security guard at Seminole Casino Immokalee attempted to prevent a driver from leaving the casino and driving while intoxicated but was struck down by the driver in his attempt to help, Collier County sheriff's deputies said.

Timothy David Garza, 38, of an Immokalee street address not listed in reports, was arrested at 3:30 a.m. Saturday.

The security officer advised Garza that he should get some coffee and sober up, according to reports. As the guard continued to try to convince Garza not to leave, Garza started to drive off. Then, when the guard told Garza he was calling for a deputy and began walking away, Garza accelerated, not giving the guard opportunity to get out of the way. Garza then rammed his vehicle into the officer, striking the security guard on his left side using the front right corner of the vehicle and then hitting the officer again on his left arm and left side of his body with the vehicle's left side mirror, according to reports.

Garza was then arrested by Collier deputies and charged with DUI and aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. The security guard was not seriously injured, reports indicated.

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