

San Diego County Crime Stoppers

Law Enforcement Liaison Office 1401 Broadway San Diego, CA 92101

TIPLINE (888) 580-TIPS

Crime Stoppers Coordinators

San Diego Police Officer James Johnson (619) 531-1500

San Diego Sheriff's Deputy Adriana Uribe (619) 531-1547

Detectives Seek Public's Assistance; Help Identify Suspect in Hate Crime

Release Date: December 7, 2006

San Diego County Crime Stoppers is joining forces with San Diego Police Department's Southeastern Division detectives to help identify and apprehend a suspect wanted for assault in a hate crime.

On November 27, 2006, at approximately 8:40 p.m., the suspect got onto trolley #55 at 32^{nd} and Commercial Streets. He is described as a black male, about 5'10" – 6'2" with an average build. His hair was in braids and he was wearing a hooded sweatshirt, red shorts and red and white Adidas shoes and was carrying a boom box. According to the victim, a white male adult, the suspect made eye contact with him and made racially motivated, derogatory remarks. The suspect also turned his radio up really loud. At the 47^{th} Street stop, a trolley security officer boarded the trolley and asked the suspect to turn his radio down. (A composite photo is included on page 2 of this release.)

The trolley continued traveling eastbound with several passengers onboard. The suspect became further agitated and began to pace inside the trolley and again turned his radio up while making racially motivated comments.

When the trolley arrived at the Euclid Avenue stop, one of the trolley security officers saw the suspect punch the victim in the head. The impact sent the victim crashing into the trolley car window. The victim fell to the floor between the seats and the suspect grabbed him by the shirt and started hitting him in the face and head. Several trolley security officers tried to stop the attack, but the suspect ran from the trolley. Trolley security officers at the Euclid Ave. station confronted the suspect after he got off the trolley and a struggle ensued during which he was pepper-sprayed.

The victim had 13 stitches in his head and was released from the hospital.

Anyone with information on the identity and/or location of this suspect should call the **Crime Stoppers anonymous toll-free tip line at (888) 580-TIPS.** Crime Stoppers is offering up to a \$10,000 reward to anyone with information that leads to the arrest of this suspect, nine thousand dollars of which is being funded by the Hate Crime Fund established during the recent Pride Parade attacks that occurred in Balboa Park.

Media inquiries about the case should be directed to Mónica Muñoz (619) 531-2675. Questions regarding Crime Stoppers should be directed to Officer Jim Johnson at (619) 531-1500 or Deputy Adriana Uribe at (619) 531-1547.

For information leading to an arrest, you could receive up to a \$1,000 reward and remain anonymous. The qualification of any person(s) for the reward and the amount of the reward for any person(s) so qualifying will be determined by San Diego County Crime Stoppers, Inc, in its sole discretion. The amount of all rewards given shall not exceed \$1,000. Information must be received on the tip line, (888) 580-TIPS.

