

NEWS RELEASE San Diego Police Department

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SUSPECT ARRESTED IN KIDNAPPING CASE

(San Diego) The San Diego Police Department Southeastern Division detectives arrested a man believed responsible for a kidnapping case that occurred on June 15, 2009 on Latimer Street in the Valencia Park neighborhood. Detectives identified the suspect using DNA.

Thirty-seven-year-old leremia Tuiolemotu (a Samoan male) was arrested this morning by Southeastern Division detectives at his home in the Fairmont Park neighborhood. Tuiolemotu is believed responsible for this kidnapping case and an indecent exposure case that took place on June 9, 2009 at 4600 Wightman. Tuiolemotu will be booked on kidnapping, 207 PC and indecent exposure, 314 PC. Tuiolemotu is a registered sex offender whose previous offenses include indecent exposure and annoying or molesting a child under 18 (647.6(a) PC).

On June 15, 2009 a 9-year-old girl was on her way to school when a man in a van approached her. He grabbed her and told her to get inside the van. She was inside the van for a brief time – but she was able to get free and run away. The victim ran to a nearby school and asked for help. In addition, a couple of neighbors nearby saw the incident and called police. The victim did not sustain any serious injuries. The victim described the suspect as a Hispanic male between the ages of 25 and 40. He was wearing a lime green shirt and blue or black pants. The suspect's vehicle is a nineties model, white, mini-van. On June 9, 2009 at about 2 p.m. a 17-year-old girl was walking in the area of 4600 Wightman in the Fairmont Village neighborhood when she spotted a male in a white van who exposed himself to her. The victim left the area and notified police immediately. The suspect did not make physical contact with the victim in this case.

Anyone who may have been a victim of Tuiolemotu or may have information about these cases is asked to call SDPD Southeastern Division at (619) 527-3500.