

NEWS RELEASE San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 30, 2009 CONTACT: Capt. Jim Collins (619) 531-2775

SERIES-RELATED HOME INVASION ROBBERY AND SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE

(San Diego) Detectives from the SDPD Robbery and Sex Crimes Units are investigating a home invasion robbery and sexual assault that occurred Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at about 11:30 a.m., in the 6500 block of Reflection Drive. The assault is believed to be the sixth case in a series that began in June 2008 in the College Area. (Refer to news release dated March 13, 2009)

In Tuesday's case, the victim had just returned home from shopping, took her 18-month-old child into the house, and returned to her vehicle to retrieve additional items. As the victim re-entered her apartment, the suspect grabbed her from behind and threatened her with a knife. The suspect first demanded cash then sexually assaulted the victim. After the assault, the suspect left the scene and the victim was able to take her child and flee out the back of the apartment to get help. The child was not injured.

The suspect in this case is described as a white or Hispanic male, approximately 30-years-old, 5'6" tall, medium build. He was wearing a black jacket, denim jeans, and black shoes.

The suspect's method of operation is similar in all of the cases; attacking women shortly after they return home. The suspect enters through an open garage or front door, generally while the victim is carrying items into the home. The suspect demands cash and either threatens a sexual assault or commits a sexual assault. All of the victims are Asian women, between the ages of 20 and 48.

Women are advised to be aware of their surroundings at all times; especially when returning home alone. Look in the rear-view mirror of your vehicle to make sure no one is following you. When you arrive home, look for suspicious persons loitering around your home. If you see someone suspicious, drive around the block and make sure the person has gone. If he is still there, drive a safe distance away and call police. While at home, keep you garage door closed and your doors locked.

Anyone with information regarding this case, or the series is asked to call the San Diego Police Department Robbery Unit at (619) 531-2299, the UC San Diego Police Department at (858) 534-4358, or Crime Stoppers anonymous, toll-free tip line at (888) 580-8477.