

## **NEWS RELEASE** San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 13, 2009 **CONTACT:** Capt. Jim Collins Investigations II (619) 531-2775

## POLICE INVESTIGATING A POSSIBLE SERIES OF HOME INVASIONS AND SEXUAL ASSAULTS

**(San Diego)** Detectives from the San Diego Police Department and the University of California San Diego Police Department are investigating five cases of home invasion robberies and sexual assaults that appear to be related.

While investigating two recent home invasion robbery cases in the Carmel Valley area, detectives began reviewing other cases and determined three additional cases appear to be related.

The first case occurred in the 6500 block of Montezuma Road on June 6, 2008. In that case, a suspect confronted the victim in her apartment, demanded money and sexually assaulted the victim.

The second case occurred on November 7, 2008 in the 9200 block of Regents Road in the UC San Diego, Mesa Housing area. In this case the suspect also demanded money and sexually assaulted the victim. The UC San Diego Police Department is investigating that case.

On January 16, 2009, the third case occurred in the 5100 block of Camino Playa De Oro, in Tierrasanta. In that case, the victim was confronted, in the garage of her home, by the suspect and robbed of cash.

The two most recent cases occurred on February 10, 2009, in the 10500 block of Whispering Hills Lane and on March 4, 2009, in the 3700 block of Carmel View Road. In both of those cases, the suspect confronted the victims in the garage of their homes and demanded money. In one case he threatened to sexually assault the victim and in the other he sexually battered the victim.

The similarities in the cases include: the victims are all Asian females; the victims had recently returned home, just prior to the attacks; the suspect threatened the victims with a knife; the suspect demanded money; in all but one case, there was a sexual assault, sexual battery, or the threat of a sexual assault.

The description of the suspect is a white or Hispanic male, in his 20's or 30's, 5"6" to 5'9", thin to medium build.

Anyone with information on the suspect is as to call the San Diego Police Department Robbery unit at (619) 531-2299, the UC San Diego Police Department at (858) 534-4359, or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477

Safety Tips for everyone:

- Keep your doors closed and locked when you are at home.
- When returning home be aware of your surroundings.
- If you notice a stranger loitering near your home, do not go to your house. Drive around the block and make sure the person had gone.
- If the person is still there, drive away a safe distance and call the police.
- Report suspicious persons or activity in your neighborhood.

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