

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARREST MADE IN CORE COLUMBIA SEXUAL ASSAULT SERIES

(San Diego, CA) San Diego Police Department Central Division detectives have arrested a suspect for a series of recent sexual assaults that occurred in the neighborhoods of Core Columbia and Little Italy.

On May 10, 2011, at about 2:30 p.m., the suspect walked up behind a female pedestrian at 6th Avenue and A Street and grabbed her buttocks. As he did so, he made a comment to the female then ran westbound on A Street.

On May 16, 2011, at 1:25 p.m., a female victim was approached by the suspect as she was walking in the area of 700 B Street. The suspect commented about the victim's appearance and tried to engage her in conversation. He got very close to the victim and was able to put his hand on her bare leg and move it up under her skirt. The victim kicked and pushed the suspect away. Witnesses saw the suspect run northbound on 7th Avenue.

Later that day, at 3:55 p.m., the same suspect walked up behind another female pedestrian in the area of 200 Elm Street and grabbed her buttocks. The suspect spoke to the victim and then laughed as he ran away, southbound on 3rd Avenue.

On May 24, 2011, at about 12:00 p.m., the suspect approached a victim in the area of 6th Avenue and Grape Street. He grabbed her buttocks and made a comment before walking away into Balboa Park. San Diego Police officers responded to the area and soon located a subject who matched the suspect's description. Further investigation revealed this was indeed the suspect. He was arrested for sexual battery and an unrelated weapons charge.

San Diego Police Department detectives conducted a follow-up investigation on these cases and were able to additionally charge him with 2 of the earlier cases.

The suspect's identity is not being released at this time. The suspect in these cases was described as a "clean cut" white male in his late 30's or early 40's, 6-0, 205 lbs. He had dark blond hair and green eyes. He was further described as wearing a tight-fitting black t-shirt tucked into blue jeans or khaki pants.

Anyone with information about these or other related crimes is asked to call the San Diego Police Department at (619) 531-2000 or the Central Division at (619) 744-9500.

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