



## San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott



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### **City Attorney Charges Serial Parking Lot Stalker**

*Man accused of harassing women by crawling under cars, refusing to leave*

The San Diego City Attorney's Office has filed criminal charges against a man accused of harassing multiple women at a Mission Valley shopping center and holding some against their will by climbing under their cars and refusing to come out. Three misdemeanor counts were filed against Orlando J. Chavez of San Diego: two for false imprisonment, and one for criminal assault and battery.

Chavez approached most of his victims in the parking lot of the mall, according to the court filings. He reportedly grabbed one woman by the arm and told her, "You can flatten me out any time." He followed another woman into her workplace, and approached yet another victim as she waited to pick up her children at school. He was investigated for stalking that woman for nearly two years, and slashing the tires of her husband's car, according to police.

**"Everyone has the right to feel safe when going to work, shopping, or picking up their children at school,"** City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. **"As City Attorney, I take seriously threatening and harassing behaviors like this and will hold accountable individuals who endanger the safety of any San Diegan."**

According to investigators, Chavez has a long history of crawling under women's vehicles to prevent them from leaving. The first incident cited in the court filings took place in 2018, and the most recent on August 13, 2020.

In one of the more recent cases he told a woman and her supervisor, whom the victim had called for help, "You girls are so pretty and should come with me," according to the police report. One of the incidents was even observed by an off-duty San Diego Police Officer, who saw Chavez climb under a woman's car. The officer ordered Chavez to come out from under the car at least five times before he did, then yelled that he wasn't doing anything wrong, got into his truck and drove away. At least twice Chavez reportedly harassed women and then followed them in his truck as they drove out of the parking lot.

Chavez, who is 72 years old, has a criminal record with multiple convictions for crimes including weapons violations and burglary. In several of the incidents he was seen driving a white Chevrolet truck,

with a personalized license plate reading HINUF. Any additional witnesses or victims are urged to contact the City Attorney's Criminal Division at (619) 533-5500.

This case was filed on behalf of the People of the State of California by Deputy City Attorney An Dang of the City Attorney's Criminal and Community Justice Division.

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