



SHERIFF LAURIE SMITH

For Immediate Release- Media

Office of the Sheriff

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TYPE OF CRIME: Annoying/ Molesting a Minor

LOCATION: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)

CASE NUMBER: 17-299-0057T

DATE: November 3, 2017

TIME: 7:00 AM

Transit Patrol Deputies Arrest Suspect Accused of Photographing an Underage Girl on VTA

Today, Transit Patrol Deputies and Detectives with the Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Task Force arrested 70 year-old Florencio Hernandez-Palmo for photographing an underage female while riding VTA. Investigators believe there may be other victims in Santa Clara County and are asking people to come forward with information.

On October 26, 2017, the investigation into Hernandez-Palmo was initiated following a report to the Sheriff's Office Transit Patrol Division in which a 16 year-old female described an unknown suspect taking pictures and/or video of her while she rode a VTA bus to school. The suspect, later identified as Hernandez-Palmo, would discreetly hold his cellphone pointing the camera directly at the victim.

Prior to reporting the suspect's behavior to law enforcement, the victim became suspicious of Hernandez-Palmo because whenever she got on the bus, his attention would focus directly on her. On at least one occasion, after the victim disembarked the bus, Hernandez-Palmo followed directly behind her recording her with his cellphone from just a few feet away.

On November 3, 2017, Sheriff's Office Deputies were able to identify and locate Hernandez-Palmo. At approximately 7:00 AM, he was placed under arrest prior to boarding a bus at Hostetter Road and Flickinger Avenue in the City of San Jose. Hernandez-Palmo was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail.

The investigation into Hernandez-Palmo is ongoing. He is believed to have engaged in photographing numerous females over the course of a three year period and Sheriff's Office Investigators are asking potential victims to contact the Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau at (408) 808-4500. Alternatively, you can contact the Sheriff's Office Investigative Services anonymous tip line at (408) 808-4431.

Photo of the suspect is attached.

Prepared By: Sgt. R. Glennon
Approved By: A/S K. Binder

Date / Time Prepared: 11/03/17 @ 1400
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Florencio Hernandez-Palmo from San Jose, CA. Age 70