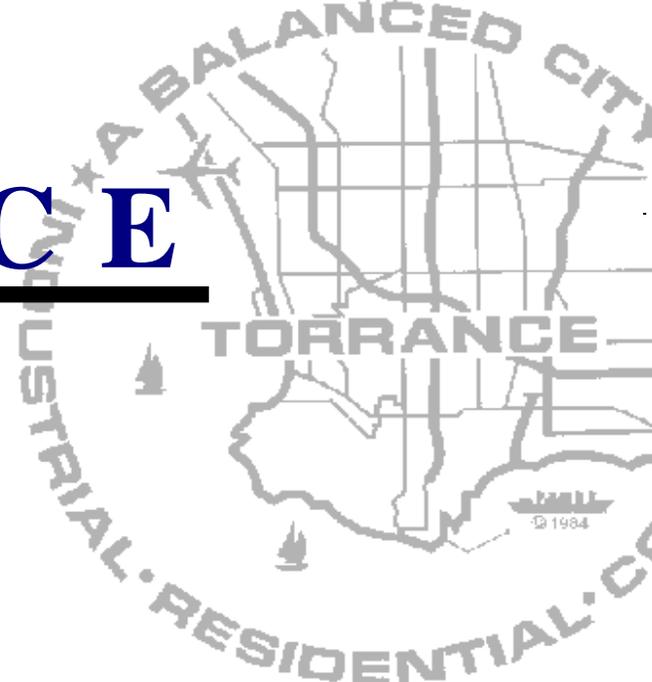


T O R R A N C E

Press Release
Police Department



Attempted Kidnapping and Sexual Battery **DR #04-3493**

On March 4, 2004 at approximately 7:35 P.M., Officers from the Torrance Police Department responded to the 3600 block of 180th Place regarding an assault that had just occurred.

Preliminary investigation revealed that while a 14-year-old female was walking home, a suspect in a vehicle pulled alongside her and asked for directions. The suspect then exited his vehicle and engaged the victim in further conversation regarding the directions. The suspect then struck the victim on the head with an object numerous times knocking her to the ground. During the sexual battery the victim was able to fend off the suspect. The suspect fled the neighborhood in his vehicle. The victim was treated at the scene by the Torrance Paramedics and transported to a local hospital where she received medical attention for head and facial lacerations. The incident is being investigated as an attempt kidnapping and sexual battery.

The suspect is described as a white male adult, 18-19 years of age, 5'08", thin, short brown hair and brown eyes.

The suspect vehicle is a possible newer Toyota, 4-door, white in color.

Investigators believe at this time, this is an isolated incident. If anyone in the community has information regarding this incident, they are asked to contact the Torrance Police Department at (310) 328-3456.

The investigation continues under the direction of Investigative Division Commander Lieutenant Marc Wilkins.

Officer Dave Crespin
Public Information Officer
Torrance Police Department
(310) 618-6391