

TORRANCE

Press Release

Police Department

Swami Charged with Sexual Assault by Fraud

DR #150023690

July 23, 2015



On May 13 2015, the Torrance Police Department arrested Gokula Nanda for multiple counts of felony sexual assault by fraud that had occurred in Torrance and Santa Clarita in 2015.

Prior to his arrest, Nanda owned and operated the Hari-Om India Market (20655 Soledad Canyon Rd; #22, Santa Clarita, CA). Nanda claimed to be a Swami (Hindu monk) and also offered fortune-telling, healing, and counseling services at his store.

Nanda is alleged to have sexually assaulted female clients under the fraudulent representation that the sexual contacts were part of his spiritual rituals.

The Torrance Police Department subsequently learned that Nanda was the subject of investigations with the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department for similar offenses dating back to 2005. Additional charges were added in relation to the Los Angeles Sheriff's investigation.

Nanda was arraigned in Torrance court on 15 JUL 15 and was formally charged with 9 counts of sexual battery, sexual battery by fraud, and sexual penetration by fraud. Nanda is currently released on a \$100,000 bond pending further court proceedings.

Anyone with information related to this case is advised to contact the Torrance Police Department Detective Division at (310) 618-5570.

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TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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