**Press Release**

**Police Department**

**June 17, 2020**

**UPDATE**

**Assault Suspect / Hateful Speech**

On Wednesday, June 10, 2020, the Torrance Police Department began an investigation related to two separate criminal threat reports involving the same suspect. The unfortunate incidents occurred at Wilson Park, located at 2200 Carson Street. During the incidents, the suspect made racial slurs and threatened two separate victims. A third incident occurred in October 2019 at the Del Amo Mall, located at 3525 Carson Street. During the third incident, the suspect allegedly pushed and struck the victim.

Investigators were able to identify the suspect in all three cases as Lena Hernandez of Long Beach. Investigators attempted to locate Hernandez at her possible place of residence, but she was not located. Investigators later submitted their investigation related to all three incidents to the City Prosecutor's office for filing consideration.

On Wednesday, June 17, 2020, Torrance Police Detectives, along with the Specialized Crisis Intervention Team, located Hernandez in a park in the City of San Pedro. Investigators were able to speak with Hernandez related to all three incidents. Based on the fact all three incidents are misdemeanor crimes and did not occur in the presence of an officer, Hernandez was not arrested at the time of the interview. The details of the interview will be submitted to the City of Torrance Prosecutors office.

This investigation is being conducted under the command of Torrance Police Captain Mark Underwood of the Special Operations Bureau. Anyone with information regarding these cases is encouraged to contact the Torrance Police Department at (310) 328-3456 (DR# 200021101, 200020973, 190046609).

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