

## **Humboldt County Sheriff's Office**

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: 03-12-2012 From: Lt. Steve Knight

(707) 268-3630

**Subject:** Home Invasion/Assault/Torture **Case:** 201201202

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On 03-12-2012, approximately 10:00 a.m. the Fortuna Police Department was notified of a Home Invasion Robbery which just occurred in the 3000 block of Drake Hill Road, Fortuna. The Fortuna Police Department responded and notified the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office. The address where the crime occurred was in the Sheriffs Office jurisdiction.

When deputies arrived they met with the 38 year old female victim. The victim told the deputies she was home alone when she saw an unknown male in her home at approximately 9:00 a.m. The male demanded money, drugs and asked her where the marijuana growing operation was at. About this time the female was covered with a sheet by another male suspect, whom the victim did not see. The suspects tied the victim to a chair with electrical cord. The victim was sexually assaulted, and then assaulted with a lit cigarette by the suspects who demanded to know where the money and drugs were located, while the victim continued to tell the suspects she had no drugs or a marijuana grow operation.

During the robbery the victim's husband called the victim, who answered her telephone using her foot since she was tied up. When he answered she began screaming into the phone to her husband about what was occurring. The suspects heard the victim calling the husband and fled the home prior to law enforcement being called to the scene. The suspects fled with some of the victim's cash and jewelry that she had in her home.

When deputies arrived they found evidence consistent with the victims account as to what occurred. The victim refused medical treatment. Deputies found no indication of any illegal drug activity or marijuana cultivation at the residence.

The suspects are both described as white males. The victim was only able to see one of the suspects prior to having her head covered. He is described as follows:

Male, early 20's, slender "Runners Build", approximately 150 pounds, 5'10" tall, straight dark brown hair below the ears, wearing black wranglers, black suede type shoes with "E" written on them.

Anyone with information for the Sheriffs Office regarding this case or criminal related activity is encouraged to call the Sheriffs Office at 707-445-7251 or the Sheriffs Office Crime Tip line at 707-268-2539.

Mike Downey Sheriff

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