



ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Investigators seek public's assistance

**ALISO VIEJO, Calif. (Sept. 24, 2019)** – The Orange County Sheriff's Department is investigating multiple incidents that have occurred within the last two weeks in the Aliso Viejo and Laguna Hills areas and the Aliso Creek Hiking Trail that connects the cities.

The first child annoyance incident, on September 12, 2019, occurred at approximately 9 a.m. near Windsong and Aliso Creek Road in the city of Aliso Viejo. A 12-year-old female reported an unknown white male touched her earlier in the day as she was walking to school. The suspect was described as a white male in his early 30s, with blond hair, wearing sunglasses and dressed in black.

The second child annoyance incident occurred on September 17, 2019, at approximately 4 p.m. along the Aliso Creek Hiking Trail in the city of Aliso Viejo. The victim, a 16-year-old female, was walking home from school, when she was touched by a male suspect. The victim described the man as Hispanic, between 30-40 years old, 5'6", 140 pounds and short black hair.

On September 18, 2019, at approximately 6:30 p.m., an attempted kidnapping of an 11-year-old female occurred while she was walking her dog along the Aliso Creek Trail in Laguna Hills near Via Lomas and Sheep Hills Park. The suspect grabbed the victim and began to drag her toward the bushes. The victim screamed, and the suspect released her and ran off. The victim described the suspect as a male Hispanic with short dark hair wearing a red Angels sweatshirt, blue jeans and black shoes.

This morning, an attempted kidnapping of a 28-year-old female occurred at approximately 8:45 a.m. along the Aliso Creek Hiking Trail near Sheep Hills Park near the underpass of Moulton Parkway. The victim, who was walking on the trail, reported hearing someone jogging behind her, and was then grabbed by the suspect by the elbow and pulled her toward him from behind. The victim was able to head-butt the suspect, and he released her and ran off. The victim described the suspect as a male Caucasian with medium length dark brown hair, approximately 5'10", wearing a black sweatshirt with a large colored logo on the back and jeans with a rip near the seat. The victim did not see the suspects face and was unable to provide enough detail for a sketch.

Investigators are working these cases to determine if the incidents are connected. A task force was established last week, with investigators from multiple details, specialty patrol details, and crime analysis units working every day to attempt to identify the individual(s). No arrest has been made.

Anyone with information they believe may assist investigators is asked to contact the Orange County Sheriff's Department dispatch at 714-647-7000 or Orange County Crime Stoppers at 1-855-TIP-OCCS (1-855-847-6227) or at [occrimestoppers.org](http://occrimestoppers.org).

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