



## MEDIA RELEASE

**Contact:** Watch Commander, 805-339-4416  
**Release Prepared By:** Sgt. Jerry Foreman  
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Incident:** Human Trafficking, Pimping/Pandering Arrest

**Location:** La Quinta In, 5818 Valentine Rd.

**Date/Time Occurred:** 1-5-17 @ 1200 hrs.

**Officer(s) Involved:** Major Crimes Detectives, Patrol Task Force, Street Crimes Unit, Ventura County Human Trafficking Enforcement Team

**Victim(s):** Withheld

**Suspect(s):** Byron Haskins, 27 yrs., Los Angeles resident

**Report #:** 17-00214

**Narrative:**

On the above date and time, Detectives from the Ventura Police Department and Ventura County's Human Trafficking Enforcement Team responded to the La Quinta Inn on Valentine Rd. regarding an anonymous tip about possible Human Trafficking taking place.

When officers arrived, they were initially focusing their attention on the reported room involved from the anonymous tip. However, during their surveillance, detectives happened to see a subject they recognized from a wanted flier distributed by the Orange County District Attorney's Office approximately three weeks earlier. The subject of the wanted flier, Byron Haskins, was a known Pimp and had failed to appear on weapons charges stemming from an arrest in Santa Ana in October, 2016.

Officers ultimately made contact with Haskins and took him into custody without incident. Haskins was transported to Ventura County Jail where he was booked for his outstanding warrants.

The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this crime is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at 339-4343, or make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

*The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at [www.venturapd.org](http://www.venturapd.org)*

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