



NEWS RELEASE

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Release Prepared by: Commander Rick Murray
VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Assault to Commit Rape Arrest

Location: 200 Block of South Dunning St

Date/Time Occurred: 5-24-23 0815 hours.

Officer(s) Involved: Patrol, Major Crimes Detectives

Suspect(s): Lathanial Walker 2-26-97 Vagrant

Report #: 23-31619

Narrative:

On May 24, 2023, at about 0815 hours the Ventura Police Department received a 911 call of an assault that had just occurred in the 200 block of South Dunning St.

Responding officers located a 75-year-old female who had been a victim of an attempted sexual assault. The suspect had fled the scene on foot and was apprehended by officers a few blocks away.

The ensuing investigation revealed that the victim was gardening in her front yard when the suspect, Lathanial Walker, approached her on foot. He stood for several minutes watching her as she continued to garden, he then moved in closer to her and dropped his pants. Walker grabbed the victim from behind and began to drag her toward a more secluded area. The victim yelled for help and neighbors intervened to save the victim from further trauma. Walker fled towards the mall and was apprehended by additional responding officers.

Walker was subsequently booked into Ventura County Jail for charges of aggravated kidnapping, assault with the intent to commit rape, and elder abuse.

A records check of Walker indicates he was released from custody in Ventura County on March 18th, 2023, stemming from a burglary arrest in Oxnard in August 2021. Walker has numerous arrests from Virginia Beach, VA, Jacksonville, FL, and other states including assault on a police officer, robbery, assault on a child, and stolen vehicle.

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

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