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CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

November 26, 2014

YELLOW CAB DRIVER ARRESTED FOR SEXUAL BATTERY

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating a sexual battery that occurred at approximately 12:30 A.M. on Thursday, October 9th. The incident took place in the 100 block of Northeast 3rd Avenue in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

The victim and her friend were picked up by a Yellow Cab driver in the area of the 2400 block of East Sunrise Boulevard. The victim's friend requested the driver to take them to an ATM and he drove them to the area of Northeast 3rd Avenue and Northeast 1st Street. When the friend exited the cab to use the ATM, the driver drove away with the victim. The suspect drove the victim to a parking lot in the area of Southeast 3rd Avenue and Southeast 4th Street, where he forcefully removed her from the vehicle and sexually battered her.

The victim reported the incident to police and was transported to the Nancy J. Cotterman Sexual Assault Treatment Center for a medical evaluation.

On November 25th, detectives from the Special Victims Unit received a report from the Broward Sheriff's Office DNA Laboratory. This report positively identified the DNA collected in the victim's rape kit.

The suspect was identified as Max Raphael, B/M, 01/09/85, a resident of the City of Lauderdale Lakes.

Raphael was taken into custody and charged with the following;

- > (1) Count of Kidnapping
- > (1) Count of Sexual Battery

This is an active and on-going investigation.

Anyone who may have information about this incident or similar incidents should contact Detective Yvette Martinez at 954-828-5784 or the Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-8477(TIPS).

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