

Detective Tracy Figone Public Information Officer (954) 828-6433 TFigone@fortlauderdale.gov

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

October 19, 2017

SEXUAL BATTERY

Update (2) 10.19.17

Detectives have identified the suspect and taken him into custody.

The suspect has been identified as James Hodge, W/M, 11/26/1975, a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Hodge has been charged with Sexual Battery by Force.

Update 10.17.17

Detectives have identified a vehicle that was driven by the suspect during the time of the incident.

Video footage of vehicle: <u>https://youtu.be/y7i5ydf1J4o</u>

The vehicle is described as an older model, Ford Crown Victoria, dark in color, with factory baby moon hubcaps.

Anyone who may be able to identify the vehicle or have any additional information in regards to this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Yvette Martinez at 954-828-5784 or Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS (8477).

Original 10.09.17

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is actively investigating a sexual battery that occurred on Thursday, October 5th at approximately 1:30 A.M. The incident took place in the 2600 block of Middle River Drive in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

A female victim was walking in the area when she was approached by a white male suspect. The suspect tackled the victim and sexually battered her on the front lawn of an apartment complex, next to the road. The suspect then fled the area in an unknown direction.

Officers responded and located the victim, assisting her to the Nancy J. Cotterman Sexual Assault Treatment Center for medical evaluation.

The suspect is described as a W/M, approximately 40-45 years old, 5'11" to 6'00" in height with a large build. The suspect has a tattoo on the lower right leg possibly of an oriental theme.

Detectives have released the below sketch of the suspect responsible for this sexual battery.

Anyone who recognizes this suspect or has further information regarding this sexual battery is urged to contact Detective Yvette Martinez at 954-828-5784 or Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS (8477).



###