



San Diego City Attorney  
Mara W. Elliott



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 7, 2024**

Contact: Andrew Sharp at

[asharp@sandiego.gov](mailto:asharp@sandiego.gov) or (619) 723-1674

## **Carmel Valley Suspect in Series of Indecent Exposure Incidents Targeting School-Aged Children Arrested and Charged**

Last week, San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott filed a complaint against a Carmel Valley man accused of targeting and exposing his genitals to school-aged children. Rene Cruz (Defendant) has been charged with 24 counts of indecent exposure occurring between October 2023 and May 2024. On November 4, 2024, officers from the San Diego Police Department's Northwestern Division arrested the 27-year-old on a \$200,000 arrest warrant.

Numerous victims reported to law enforcement that a male was seen parked by elementary, middle, and high schools, with his passenger side car door open. The students were walking home from school when they noticed a male exposing his genitals and masturbating while seated in his car. Several search warrants obtained by the San Diego Police Department linked Cruz to the alleged incidents. Defendant targeted Torrey Pines High School, Carmel Valley Middle School, Solana Pacific Elementary School, and Ashley Falls Elementary School.

**“For years, Cruz fixated on unsuspecting young girls leaving school for the day, seized their attention, and then exposed them to lewd conduct as they walked by,”** San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. **“We believe there may be other victims since Cruz’s conduct occurred over a long period at numerous school sites. We encourage victims and witnesses to contact law enforcement so that justice is served.”**

The San Diego Police Department is looking to identify any other victims. To report any additional incidents or provide helpful information, please contact Detective Michael Weaver, Northwestern Division Investigations at [MWeaver@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:MWeaver@pd.sandiego.gov).

At his arraignment on November 6, Defendant was present in custody and pleaded not guilty to all charges. He was released on supervised release. During the pendency of the case, Defendant will be monitored via a GPS tracking device. Additionally, the Court ordered Defendant to stay 100 yards away from all schools in the County of San Diego. Also, the Court ordered Defendant to not associate

---

Recent City media releases can be accessed on the San Diego City Attorney's website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/cityattorney>  
Follow the City Attorney's Office on Instagram: [@sdcityattorney](https://www.instagram.com/sdcityattorney) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

1200 Third Avenue, Suite 1620, San Diego, California 92101-4188 (619) 236-6220

or have contact with minors and to submit to a Fourth Amendment waiver search of his person, personal belongings, residence, vehicle, and electronic devices when requested by law enforcement. Defendant is scheduled to be in Court for a Readiness Conference on November 14, 2024, at 8:15 A.M., in Department 1104 of the San Diego Superior Court – Central Courthouse.

This case was filed on behalf of the People of the State of California by Supervising Deputy City Attorney Jessica Castany of the City Attorney’s Domestic Violence and Sex Crimes Unit. City Attorney Elliott thanked Assistant City Attorney Paige Folkman and Chief Deputy City Attorney Angela Law for their outstanding efforts protecting our community.

###