

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Arrest Made in Child Abuse Investigation**

**San Diego** – In January, the San Diego Police Department’s Child Abuse Unit began an investigation into the torture and sexual assault of a 3-year old victim. At the time of the abuse, the suspects, an adult man and adult woman, had been entrusted to take care of the victim. The child’s mother suspected the toddler was being abused and called our department. A subsequent investigation revealed the abuse began approximately in October of 2019 and lasted several months until the child’s mother contacted us.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, the San Diego Police Department arrested the man and woman, identified as 27-year-old Marcos Ramirez and 25-year-old Vennesia Ruiz. Ramirez was booked in to jail for: 206 PC – Torture, 288.7(A) PC – Sex Assault of a Child Under 10 Years or Younger, 288(B)(1) PC – Lewd & Lascivious Acts by Force Against a Victim Under 14 years old & 273A(A) PC – Child Cruelty with Injury. Ruiz was booked into jail for two-counts of 273A(A) PC – Child Cruelty with Injury. Both are being held without bail and are scheduled to appear in court on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM.

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