

# NEWS RELEASE



## City of Rancho Cucamonga Police Department



**Date/Time:** March 15, 2010 at approximately 9:30 a.m.

**Crime:** PC 207 Kidnapping

**Location:** Victoria Groves Elementary, 10950 Emerson Street, Rancho Cucamonga

**Suspect:** Hyun Ji Byun, 42 year old Transient

**Victim:** 7 year old male and 12 year old male, confidential

### SUMMARY

On March 15, 2010 at approximately 9:30 a.m., Hyun Ji Byun arrived at Victoria Groves Elementary School and picked up his ex-girlfriend's children. Hyun Ji Byun had been estranged from his girlfriend since November 2009, and had no legal rights to pick up the children; however, the emergency information cards were not updated, which gave Hyun Ji Byun release authorization.

At 3:15 p.m. the grandfather of the victims arrived at the school to pick up the children. He became alarmed upon learning that his grandchildren had been released to Hyun Ji Byun. A staff member of Victoria Groves Elementary contacted the Rancho Cucamonga Police Department to report a possible kidnapping.

Rancho Cucamonga Police Detectives and the Sheriff's Crime Impact Team immediately responded to provide additional support efforts. Byun reportedly threatened to kill his estranged girlfriend and himself. The San Bernardino Police Department assisted by providing Korean translators that allowed investigators to communicate with the family. The victims' family related to law enforcement that Byun had at times become violent and had erratic behavior.

The investigation led Detectives to Riverside County, where the suspect and the children were located in the area of Indian Truck Trail and the 15 freeway in the City of Corona. Hyun Ji Byun was taken into custody at 2:00 a.m. on March 16, 2010 and booked at West Valley Detention Center on two charges of Kidnapping.

The outstanding assistance provided by all responding units led to the quick arrest of Hyun Ji Byun, and the safe return of the unharmed children to their mother.

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ROD HOOPS, Sheriff/Coroner  
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department