



ROD HOOPS, SHERIFF-CORONER

PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME: **April 23, 2009**

INCIDENT: **PC 646.9(b) Stalking**

LOCATION: **City of Rancho Cucamonga**

SUSPECT: **James Fredric Harwell III, 34 Years of Age, Resident of Rancho Cucamonga**

VICTIM: **Confidential per PC 293(a) & GC 6254**

SUMMARY: In September 2008, the victim in this case ended a two and a half year relationship, during which she did not live with Harwell. After he would not stop contacting her at her residence, she contacted the Rancho Cucamonga Police Department and was advised to obtain a restraining order against Harwell. A temporary restraining order was issued in October 2008 and in January 2009, a permanent restraining order was issued by the Rancho Cucamonga Superior Court prohibiting Harwell from contacting or following the victim.

Approximately one week after the permanent restraining order was issued, the victim began seeing Harwell in his vehicle along her route to and from work. On one occasion, the victim reported that Harwell held up a sign with a biblical reference which the victim interpreted as meaning she was going to get what she deserved. Harwell used his computer knowledge to create a website in the victim's name and would leave messages on the site for her. The victim would see Harwell on numerous additional occasions on her way to and from work, even after changing her route. She also found harrassing signs posted on telephone poles in her neighborhood. Investigators filed a case to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office and a charge of PC 646.9(b) Stalking, a felony, was filed against Harwell under case number FWV900923.

On April 16, 2009, Harwell was arrested by the Rancho Cucamonga Police Multiple Enforcement Team and a search warrant was served at his residence. Documents were found in his residence which matched the signs that had been posted in the victim's neighborhood. An enlarged topless photograph of the victim mounted on a stick was also found in Harwell's residence. Another sign mounted on magnetic backing was found which included the phrase "Lucifer was an angel once, too" and biblical references to Revelations 22:12 and Ezekial 25:17, which referred to "executing great vengeance....with furious rebukes."

On April 23, 2009, Harwell was convicted of a felony count of PC 646.9(b), Stalking, after pleading no contest. Harwell faces 180 days in county jail, five years felony probation, and a 10-year order to stay away from the victim. Harwell remains in custody at West Valley Detention Center with a \$250,000.00 bail and is scheduled to be sentenced on May 21, 2009.

Refer: **Sergeant Ken Jamieson**

Station: **Rancho Cucamonga**

Phone No. **909-477-2800**

Case No. **110901736**

ROD HOOPS, Sheriff-Coroner
San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department