

**Press  
Release****The City of Palo Alto**  
Public Information Office250 Hamilton Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

10/22/2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #102209

**Subject :** Home Invasion Robbery Linked to Second Case**Contact :** Agent Rich Bullerjahn, Palo Alto police Department 650-722-3475  
Liz Wylie, Mountain View Police Department 650-996-2771

**Palo Alto, CA** - On October 19, 2009, the Palo Alto Police Department released news that a home invasion robbery had occurred in the 2000 block of Amherst Street in Palo Alto. During the investigation, it was learned that a very similar case had recently occurred in the 1900 block of Silverwood Avenue in Mountain View. Since that time, a joint investigation into both crimes is being conducted.

There are several similarities in both cases that led Detectives to a joint investigation. Both victims were female and similar in age, both crimes occurred in the early morning hours, and both victims were restrained and blindfolded by the suspect. The suspect in both cases is described as a male wearing black clothing and a black mask, and described as tall and lean. The ethnicity of the suspect is not confirmed. In both cases, there was a threat of robbery and sexual assault, but neither victim was injured and there were few items taken.

Both Palo Alto and Mountain View police departments strongly urge citizens to take precautions, as always, in keeping their homes secured. This includes making sure that all doors and windows are secured, all outside areas are free of debris and well lit, and that communities take advantage of neighborhood watch and other programs. All citizens are encouraged to call 9-1-1 to report any suspicious activity, whether it involves suspicious person(s), unknown noises or other activity. Suspicious people or activities should be reported immediately and callers should attempt to give as much information as possible.

Due to the ongoing investigation, no further details into either case may be released. Any questions should be forwarded to Agent Bullerjahn 650-722-3475 for Palo Alto Police Department or Liz Wylie 650-996-2771 for Mountain View Police Department. Anyone with information on either case should contact their local police department detective bureaus.

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