



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2016

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SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE (#16-42356)

Juvenile Approached by Stranger Ran Home to Report Incident

PLEASANTON, *Calif.* – On November 15, 2016 at approximately 7:02 p.m. an 11 year old male was walking home from a friend's house on Canelli Court to his residence on Palomino Drive. After crossing the street, a dark colored (possibly Chevy) four door van pulled up alongside the juvenile on Concord Street.

A white male, described as being 50-55 years old with an unshaven face, told the juvenile his mother was in the hospital and she had asked him to give the juvenile a ride to the hospital. The juvenile ran about 100 yards to his house and immediately told his mother, who called the police.

The van was last seen traveling East on Palomino Drive from Concord Street. A thorough area check was conducted for the suspicious male and van, but they were not located. There is no further description of the male or the van at this time. This is the only occurrence that has been reported to the Pleasanton Police Department.

While this type of incident is unusual in the Pleasanton community, it is important to teach youth to be prepared for such situations. The 11 year old boy in this instance did remarkable work in getting away from the situation quickly, heading to a safe place and immediately reporting the incident to a trusted adult.

Other best practices include:



- Ask children to check in when leaving one location, and again when they arrive at their destination.
- Encourage traveling in groups.
- Awareness is a great crime prevention tool – have youth put away the phones and tell them not to put both headphones in when listening to music. They should pay attention to what is going on around them.
- Does your child know where they are going? Do they know their friends address and streets they travel on? If they have to report an emergency, it is important they know where to send help.
- Don't engage with strangers. This is great to role play in 'what if' situations with kids.

For more safety information, contact the Pleasanton Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at (925) 931-5242 or (925) 931-5295.

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