



Oakland Police Department

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OAKLAND POLICE ARREST LOCAL MASSAGE/ACUPRESSURE THERAPIST FOR
SEXUAL ASSAULT**

OAKLAND, October 3—On September 27, 2004, the Oakland Police Department Special Victims Unit received several reports of inappropriate sexual behavior occurring at two Piedmont Avenue therapeutic massage centers. The suspect, 33-year-old Timothy Rooney, has been a practicing massage/acupressure therapist for the past six years and worked at both of the centers on Piedmont Avenue. Investigation revealed that most of the activity occurred in the month of September and that another woman had been victimized as early as July of this year.

Mr. Rooney, an Alameda Resident, was taken into custody on October 3, 2004. He has since been charged with 15 counts of Unlawful Sexual Penetration (289 P.C.) and three counts of Sexual Battery (243.4 P.C.). Mr. Rooney remains in custody at the Oakland City Jail in lieu of \$900,500.00 bail.

Some of Mr. Rooney's victims were long-term clients with whom he had established a trusting relationship. His sudden inappropriate actions were a surprise to them. For this reason, it is believed that additional persons may have been victimized and have yet to report the incident to the Oakland Police Department. Anyone with information or past experiences with Mr. Rooney should contact Investigator Mark Turpin of the Oakland Police Department Special Victims Unit at (510) 238-7911.

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