



Oakland Police Department

Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

For Additional Information:

Officer Danielle Bowman
Public Information Officer
Ph. (510) 238-7230

Release Date: October 19, 2005

**DOWNTOWN OAKLAND AREA SERIAL RAPIST CHARGED
Suspect Believed To Be Responsible For At Least Four Sexual Assaults**

OAKLAND, Calif. (October 19)—On October 18, 2005, Israel Bustamonte, a 25-year-old Berkeley transient, was charged with 18 felony sexual assault-related counts by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Physical evidence has connected Bustamonte to three known sexual assaults that occurred between September 2004 and February 2005 in the City of Oakland. Both the first and third assaults took place in the 400 block of Harrison Street. The second assault took place in the 1250 block of 5th Street. Each assault took place during daylight hours. The victims were approached from behind, forced to the ground, sexually assaulted and robbed of their belongings.

Bustamonte was arrested by the Berkeley Police Department on August 29, 2005 for a sexual assault that occurred in the City of Berkeley in May 2005. During the Berkeley Police Department's investigation, Oakland Police Sexual Assault Investigators began to look at Bustamonte as a possible suspect in the Downtown Oakland area assaults because he matched the physical description and modus operandi (MO) as described by the Berkeley Police Department. Physical evidence positively identified him as a suspect in all four cases.

Anyone with information about these assaults is encouraged to contact the Oakland Police Department Special Victims Investigator Eric Karsseboom at (510) 587-2507.

###

