



Oakland Police Department

Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

For Additional Information:

Officer Danielle Ashford
Public Information Officer
Ph. 510.238.7230

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MISSING 1-YEAR-OLD REUNITED WITH FAMILY

Concerned Citizen Recognizes Baby and Teenage Abductor and Calls Police

OAKLAND— On February 6, 2005, at 2:30 a.m., Oakland Police Special Victims Section (S.V.S.) Investigators were called to investigate a report of a missing 1-year-old, Anthony Waller. The baby's aunt stated that she allowed her friend, "Jame'a," to watch her nephew as she received services at a nail salon located at 7326 International Blvd. After the services were rendered, the baby's aunt walked outside of the salon to discover that the baby and Jame'a were gone. She searched for them and could not find them. The baby's aunt recently met Jame'a on the bus and found out that Jame'a was homeless. She allowed Jame'a to live with her for two nights.

During the investigation, S.V.S. Investigators were able to identify Jame'a as GeleNETTA Ballance. The news media were notified and were provided with information and photos of the baby and suspect. Several leads were called in by concerned citizens who reported seeing the suspect with the baby at several locations in Oakland. Those leads were immediately investigated with negative results.

On February 8, 2005, at approximately 12:55 a.m., a concerned citizen called the Oakland Police Department and reported they were detaining the suspect with the baby in the 1400 block of 12th Street. Citizens stated they recognized the baby from the news. It appeared the suspect was knocking on doors looking for a place to stay.

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Oakland Police Patrol Officers responded and took the suspect into custody pending charges of child endangerment and child abduction. Officers took the baby into protective custody. The suspect was interviewed and admitted to taking the baby without the consent of his parent or guardian. She left with the baby and returned later when the baby's aunt was no longer there. She said she didn't know how to contact the baby's aunt. Ballance called and visited several friends with the baby and also spent the night at a friend's house that she recently met.

After being cleared by paramedics, the baby was reunited with his family.

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