



## BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### **\*Media Release\***

## **Cross Country Pursuit Wraps Up With Arrest**

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**Berkeley, California (Friday, February 16, 2007)** - A seventeen (17) year old Berkeley resident is in custody today for a disturbing assault and burglary that took place in December 2006. Berkeley Police Department Homicide Detectives Emily Murphy and Sergeant Robert Rittenhouse were quietly persistent as they followed leads in what developed into a cross-country investigation. They attribute closure of the case to a BPD Crime Scene Technician's talent in securing a fingerprint from the scene, collaboration from police colleagues in Fort Meyers, Florida and an ACSO (Alameda County Sheriff's Office) Fugitive Task Force who brought the suspect back to California to face the charges.

On Wednesday December 6, 2006 at about 5:00pm, Berkeley Police Department patrol officers were alerted to an attack at a home in the 1100 block of Parker Street in West Berkeley. The 76-year-old woman resident was working in her backyard and confronted the male suspect as he emerged from her home. The suspect stabbed the woman and her foot was broken during the attack.

The detectives served a search warrant at the suspect's mother's home in the City of Oakland and learned that the 17-year-old may have fled to the state of Florida soon after the attack. They tracked him down to the city of Fort Meyers where he is known to the local law enforcement agency. BPD detectives secured an arrest warrant and the Berkeley Police Department took measures to insure that the suspect was expeditiously extradited back to California for charging. The suspect has been booked into Alameda County Juvenile Hall for attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon and burglary.

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