



**Marin County Sheriff's Office**  
**Bureau of Administration and Support Services**  
**Professional Standards Unit**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Suspicious Incidents in the Kentfield Area**

Kentfield, CA – Yesterday at about 8:30 AM, a man in a car approached two young girls (10 and 11 years old) who were on their way to Kent Middle School in Kentfield. The car slowly followed the girls as they walked and, at one point, made a U-turn to continue following them. The man said “hello” to the girls and patted the passenger seat of his car as if to invite them over to his car.

The car is described as an older white sedan. The back of the car was covered with hunting or fishing stickers and there was a floral-designed decal on the rear window. The license plate, make and model of the vehicle is unknown.

The man is described as a white male adult, approximately 25-30 years old with a thin build and a buzz-style haircut. He was wearing a hunter's-style jacket and sunglasses.

Another suspicious incident happened on February 3, 2010. At about 8:15 AM, a 10 year old girl was walking down Woodland Avenue toward College Avenue in Kentfield when she heard someone whistle. She looked and saw a small white truck parked on Rancheria Road at Woodland Avenue with a man sitting inside. She kept walking and, a few moments later, saw the same truck drive by her and someone whistled at her again. She described the man as a white male adult, 30-40 years old with short blonde buzz-cut hair. He did not have any facial hair and was thin.

The girl noted an emblem on the door of the truck, which she described as an orange and red picture with black letters.

The investigation by the Sheriff's Office is continuing.

Every parent should know and follow the following safety tips. Please take the time to read and share this information with your children.

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY:** Know where your children are at all times. Be familiar with their friends and daily activities.

**BUILD SELF-ESTEEM:** A child who has low self-esteem cannot protect himself/herself. Listen carefully to your children's fears, and be supportive in all your discussions with them, replacing fear with knowledge.

**TEACH DECISION-MAKING:** Children at all ages can make decisions. Practice early with little decisions so big decisions later are easier. Teach them to trust their own feelings, and assure them they have the right to say NO to what they sense is wrong.

**BUILD SUPPORT SYSTEMS:** Children need positive adult role models and need to know where to go for help.

**CHOOSE SUBSTITUTE CARE GIVERS CAREFULLY:** Interview and monitor babysitters, group leaders, youth pastors, etc. Be alert to a teenager or adult who is paying unusual amounts of attention to your children or giving them inappropriate or expensive gifts.

**PROTECT KIDS WHO ARE HOME ALONE:** Set ground rules, emergency contacts, and responsibilities for latch-key kids.

**TALK WITH CHILDREN:** Teach your children that no one should approach them or touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable. If someone does, they should tell their parents immediately.

**BE SENSITIVE:** Watch for changes in a child's behavior. They are signals that you should sit down and talk to your children about what caused the changes.

**USE ROLE-PLAYING:** Rehearse safety situations with your child. Give them power through knowledge. Play the WHAT IF? game.

**LET KIDS BE KIDS:** Teach them what they need to know to be safe and let them know you will do your best to protect them. Don't scare the fun out of children.

This and other safety information is available from the following organizations:

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)
- Stop It Now! [www.stopitnow.com](http://www.stopitnow.com)

Additional safety tips can be found on our website: [www.marinsheriff.org](http://www.marinsheriff.org).

It is the goal of the Marin County Sheriff's Office to make our communities a safer place to live.

*Anyone with information can call the sheriff's office at 415-479-2311 or Bay Area Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS and possibly receive a cash reward.*