On March 10, 2019 at about 9:58 p.m., UCI police officers responded to a report of an assault with a deadly weapon call at the Camino Del Sol student apartments located at 33000 Arroyo Drive.

A female UCI student reported she was out walking her dog in the area of Camino Del Sol when she was attacked from behind by an unknown male assailant. A struggle ensued, during which time the suspect attempted to forcibly remove the victim’s clothing, struck her in the head, and stabbed her.

The suspect is described as a large male wearing a dark colored hoodie. The suspect fled the immediate area, and responding UCI police officers established a perimeter, requesting medical aid from Orange County Fire Authority for the victim and additional resources from the City of Irvine Police Department.

A campuswide zotALERT notified the campus to secure in place while officers searched for the suspect. A K9 from the City of Irvine Police Department along with UCI and City of Irvine police officers searched the area and found no evidence the suspect was still in the area. A second zotALERT was issued releasing the secure in place order and advising the campus community that the suspect was still outstanding. A third zotALERT was issued stating that UCIPD had checked the campus and have no reason to believe that the suspect is in the area.

The victim was treated on scene and transported to an area hospital. She is in stable condition. UCI Police detectives are conducting additional investigative follow up. We have increased patrols in and around Camino Del Sol apartments and will be increasing the availability of safety escorts for the next several days.

The UCI Police Department Safety Escort program is available to anyone by calling (949) 824-7233. This is a free service provided as an alternative to walking alone.

If you have information that could be helpful in this investigation, please contact the UCI Police Department at (949) 824-5223.

Safety Tips:
• Whenever possible, walk with others. Be aware of your surroundings and avoid unfamiliar, dimly lit areas. Encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to do the same.
• If you are going out alone, make sure that someone knows where you are going, who you will be with, and when you expect to return.
• If you start to feel concerns about a person or a situation, trust your feelings and try to remove yourself as quickly as possible from the potential threat, even if it is someone you know, and even if it feels awkward to do so.
• If you think someone is at risk of assault or abuse, you should consider it an emergency and act to support that person. You can call the police or ask for help from other people, intervene directly if safe, or create a distraction to help remove the potential victim from the situation.
Resources:
- UCI CARE office provides confidential support and advocacy to students who have experienced sexual assault, relationship abuse, and stalking (www.care.uci.edu; (949) 824-7273).
- UCI’s policies and support resources for sexual violence (www.sexualviolence.uci.edu).
- Waymakers is available to provide 24-hour crisis and referral services (www.waymakersoc.org; (949) 831-9110).

Sincerely,

Paul Cooper, Interim Police Chief
UCI Crime Alerts are released by the UCI Police Department when certain crimes are reported on or near UCI property, in compliance with federal law. These Crime Alerts provide information about campus safety situations and allow campus community members to take precautions for personal safety.