



City of Hollywood, Florida

Hollywood Police Department

March 6, 2019

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Arrested After Making False Report of an Armed Abduction

The Hollywood Police Department has arrested a Hollywood man after he fabricated a report of a kidnapping, causing multiple agencies to respond and numerous resources to be utilized to investigate this false claim.

On February 12, 2019, Wilker Joseph called police shortly before 9 a.m. to report an armed abduction of a child. Mr. Joseph claimed he witnessed this while on his way to work. Hollywood Police response was immediate and comprehensive with assistance from BSO Aviation Unit, the FBI and the United States Marshals Service.

Hollywood detectives, neighborhood team leaders (NTLs) and officers conducted an investigation, canvassed the area and performed street by street searches. The School Resource Officers (SROs) worked with local schools to determine if any children failed to show up at school and verified the location of any missing children with their parents. A BOLO was issued across multiple counties for the victim, the suspects and the suspects' vehicle.

Through video and audio evidence, Hollywood detectives determined that Mr. Joseph willfully made false and misleading statements to investigating officers and detectives. Mr. Joseph was taken into custody March 5th, 2019 for the charge of making a false report.

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