

**Police wary of public's response to bogus e-mail**

**By Reporter Staff**

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A bogus e-mail claiming to detail an attempted abduction at a local business has Vacaville police concerned that it might cause unnecessary panic.

The e-mail claims that a woman parked at a local warehouse store in Vacaville and when she came back out was nearly abducted by two men in a black or grey van. The e-mail says she fought off her attackers and called police only to learn that "two Hispanic men, driving an oxidized older van, are suspected of no fewer than four rapes between Sacramento and Fairfield in the past 6 weeks."

Nothing could be further from the truth, according to Vacaville Police Lt. Randy Weaver.

"This incident did not happen as far as the police department can tell," he said. "It seems to be a 'string e-mail' and so it is difficult to tell where it originated. There were no such reports in Solano County, let alone Vacaville or Fairfield."

He said no one has reported anything "even remotely similar" to the supposed event.

The e-mail goes on to offer advice about safety, including keeping car keys or an alarm in hand if you shop alone, and calling police if you see anything suspicious.

"There is some good advice given about being aware of your surroundings but this is generally good advice anywhere," Weaver noted. "I would hate for innocent parties to be suspected as criminals based on this e-mail."

In addition, the e-mail lists specific local businesses where crimes purportedly occurred, which Weaver describes as unfair to those businesses.

The bottom line, he said, is that the e-mail isn't true and shouldn't cause citizens undue worry.