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Police impersonator sexually assaults woman

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Sketch of man who posed as a police officer and sexually assaulted a woman in East Austin.

AUSTIN, Texas (KXAN) -- Police are looking for a man who posed as a police officer and sexually assaulted a woman near Decker Lane Saturday night.

The woman reported that around 10 p.m. Saturday, she was pulled over in the 10200 block of Decker Lane by two men in a white Ford Crown Victoria. The sedan had a red-and-blue light flashing on the dashboard. The driver proceeded to handcuff the woman and put her in his car.

An accomplice followed them in the woman's car to a remote location near Decker Lane, where the driver sexually assaulted her. The two men then left in their vehicle, and she drove away in hers.

"To have the red and blue lights, to have the clothing, to know how to proceed, there's certain steps we take when we're making an approach and stuff like that, and he seemed to have that down," said Detective Chris Rowland of the Travis County Sheriff's Office.

The driver was described as a 6-foot-tall black male. He had a tattoo of barbed wire on his right arm. The man wore black-and-white camouflage pants and a black T-shirt with the word "POLICE" written across the chest.

The accomplice is a short Latino male with a bald head and a goatee. He was wearing the same clothing as the other suspect.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Rowland at **(512) 854-3245** or CrimeStoppers at **(512) 472-TIPS (8477)**.

Who is pulling you over?

Rowland said if you are worried about who is pulling you over, slow down, pull to the right as you normally would, turn on your interior lights and turn on your flashers to acknowledge that there is a law enforcement officer behind you. He said if you feel you can, drive to a safer, better lit area.

Drivers can also call 9-1-1, and the dispatcher will be able to tell you if the person behind you is really a police officer.

A real police officer will be wearing a uniform, not a T-shirt, and they will be driving a marked vehicle.



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