



# Abbotsford Police Department

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**Bob Rich**  
Chief Constable

**Richard J. Lucy**  
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*"Protecting with Pride"*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE # 2009 – 27724

RELEASE # 2

DATE OF RELEASE: August 12, 2009

### Incident: False Police Report – Sexual Assault

**Abbotsford – August 12, 2009.**

On July 29, 2009 a 22 year old woman called 911 and reported to the Abbotsford Police Department that she was the victim of a sexual assault. She alleged that an unknown man forced his way into her apartment, attacked and sexually assaulted her. The Abbotsford Police Department deployed numerous resources from the Patrol Division and K9 Unit to conduct an initial area search and Major Crime detectives and the Forensic Identification Unit members were also called out to continue the investigation.

Based on the information provided by the woman, a News Release was issued containing a suspect description and a reminder to Abbotsford residents to ensure their personal safety through securing doors and windows. After the News Release the Abbotsford Police department received several calls and emails from the general public expressing concern for their safety as a result of learning that a "balcony rapist" was potentially at large.

Major Crime detectives continued to investigate the incident in the days that followed, but parts of the woman's story caused concern and ultimately skepticism. In a follow up interview the woman was confronted by some of the evidence gathered by investigators. She then admitted that the incident was fabricated. She told police that she had not been the victim of a stranger attack sexual assault and that the suspect description and event was entirely made up. Because the reported incident created fear in the public and a large investment of police resources was mobilized to investigate the bogus event, the Abbotsford Police Department have charged the woman, Tammi Zall, with Public Mischief in relation to filing a false report with police.

<p><b>Cst. Ian MacDonald:</b> ..... Phone (604) 864-4721 <b>Abbotsford Police Public Information Officer</b> .....Cell: (604) 835-6070 <b>2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5</b> ..... Fax: (604) 859-2527 E-mail: <a href="mailto:imacdonald@abbypd.ca">imacdonald@abbypd.ca</a></p>
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*Our Mission:  
To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*