

East Area Rapist Hits In Fremont

The rape of a 27-year-old woman in Fremont was attributed Thursday to the East Area rapist, bringing the number of known victims to 42, a Sacramento County Sheriff's Department expert said.

Sgt. James Bevins of the East Area rapist detail said "there is no doubt" the rapist was responsible for a 1 a.m. attack on a woman Wednesday at her home in the Mission San Jose section of Fremont.

Sacramento and Contra Costa County experts were called into the case by police after investigators noticed a number of similarities in the Fremont attack and earlier sexual assaults attributed to the elusive rapist.

Fremont is about 30 miles south of Danville, the site of the last known attack by the East Area rapist on Dec. 9.

Investigators said the attacker apparently broke into the victim's unoccupied home by prying open a sliding glass door.

They said the woman and a male companion entered the home between 12:30 a.m. and 1 a.m. and were taken prisoner by a man brandishing a pistol and a knife.

The woman was forced to blindfold and tie up her companion, who was left in a bedroom with dishes stacked on his back.

Police said the woman then was blindfolded, bound, taken to another room and raped.

The East Area rapist has struck previously in Sacramento, Davis, Stockton, Modesto, Concord and San Ramon. The attacker's first 21 rapes occurred in Sacramento's East Area.



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