



Joe Ortiz
CHIEF OF POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

SOUTH PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT
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SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

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Protest Incident-Update **Incident Date: October 3, 2020**

SOUTH PASADENA, CA – On Saturday afternoon, a female adult placed political signs on the traffic signals located on the southwest corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and Mission Street. A motorist illegally drove his truck onto the handicap ramp to get the female's attention. He then assertively expressed to the woman his opposition of her attempt to post political signs on public property. The woman contacted the South Pasadena Police Department for assistance, expressing that she believed the motorist's action was an attack against her. Officers quickly arrived on the scene, de-escalated the situation, and interviewed the reporting party, the motorist, and witnesses at the scene.

The driver reported to the officers on scene that he did not attempt to strike the protestor, but admitted to driving his truck onto the sidewalk to express his objections to the woman's attempt to post the political signs in the public right away. The incident is the subject of an ongoing investigation. When the investigation is completed, the findings will be forwarded to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for review and potential criminal filing.

Some community members have asked why the driver was not issued a traffic citation for driving and parking on the sidewalk. In such incidents, all violations, including traffic violations, will be examined in their totality.

The attached is a video that was obtained during the investigation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJU6Tr7rhDE>

Anyone with further information or video of this incident is encouraged to contact the South Pasadena Police Department at 626-403-7270.

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