



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHILD ABANDONED BY MOTHER

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Sunday, March 12, 2017, at about 5:55 p.m., Riverside Police Officers responded to Food-4-Less, located at 4250 Van Buren Boulevard in the city of Riverside, regarding a found child. The Officers' investigation determined a mother had abandoned her 2 year old toddler in the store.

The unknown adult female entered the store with the child by her side. While inside the store, the toddler wandered off. The mother never sought out the child's whereabouts and continued shopping. When the mother was shopping, a Good Samaritan brought the child to her and the mother responded, "oh just leave her." The mother deserted the toddler after she paid for the groceries.

It appears the toddler was intentionally left in the store by the mother. The small child was able to identify the woman as her "mommy" when she was shown a photo from the surveillance footage. To date, the child has not been reported as missing and has since been placed in the custody of Child Protective Services.



The mother is described as an unknown race female, 20 to 30 years old, dark hair, last seen wearing a black or dark tank top shirt and denim shorts. It appears she may have portions of her right arm covered in tattoos.

Detectives are asking for the public's help in identifying this mother who abandoned her child. Anyone who recognizes the woman is urged to contact Detective Paul Miranda at (951) 353-7945 or pmiranda@riversideca.gov.

Surveillance video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/0deq0AjjMzE>.

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