

# Berwyn Police issue RED ALERT after North Berwyn incident



Written by Sandra Anderson  
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The Berwyn Police Department (BPD) issued a RED ALERT stemming from an incident that occurred early this morning in the area of 18<sup>th</sup> and Gunderson between a juvenile and a middle-aged male.

A juvenile, on the way school, around 7:15 a.m. observed a vehicle stop at the intersection of 18<sup>th</sup> and Gunderson. The driver attempted to lure the victim to his vehicle by waving his hands while stating: “listen to my car ... there is something wrong with it”.

Scared, the youth quickly fled the scene, ran to school and immediately notified administrators. The vehicle was last seen going Eastbound on 18<sup>th</sup> Street from Gunderson.

The minor was able to provide a description of the suspect to investigators and remembered the first letter of the license plate as being the letter “L”.

Police are searching for a white male, with a heavy build, approximately 40-50 years in age wearing glasses and sporting a white polo-

type shirt and possibly Khaki pants. He was last seen driving a gray or silver, newer model 4-door vehicle (possibly a Chevy Impala), with a license plate beginning with the letter “L”.

The BPD is asking that residents be vigilant and report anything suspicious, especially around school areas, or anybody fitting the description posted. Information can be provided to investigators by calling the Berwyn Police Department at (708) 795-5600 or by dialing 911.



## **Update - Wednesday, October 26, 2011.**

Police have learned that prior to the incident in Berwyn yesterday three others were reported in Oak Park. While specifics do vary by incident, police say all share the common elements of a white, male, in his 40s or 50s, approaching students en route to or from school.

The first incident was reported in Oak Park on Friday, October 21 at 3:10 p.m. A juvenile walking southbound on Harvey Avenue near Hatch School reported a man sitting in a vehicle who attempted to start a conversation about a nearby dog.

Two reports were taken on Monday, October 24, in Oak Park. Around 7:30 a.m., a juvenile reported being followed by a car, southbound on Ridgeland Avenue near Longfellow School, when the car stopped to observe the playground then continued on. Later, around 8:30 a.m., a juvenile reported that while walking north in the 800 block of south Oak Park Avenue, a car horn sounded and the driver asked if the juvenile needed a ride.

During all of the incidents, the students were a safe distance from the vehicles and immediately reported the events to school authorities. **Parents are encouraged to talk to and remind their children about how to respond if they are approached by strangers and again residents are encouraged to be aware of unusual activity in the area.**

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