

## ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT



2500 South Archibald Avenue Ontario, Ca. 91761 (909) 395-2001

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Brad Kaylor, Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 15, 2018APPROVED: JZ/JJ/JDINCIDENT: Youth Leader Arrested for Lewd Acts W/MinorCONTACT: Sergeant Jeff HigbeeOCCURRENCE DATE: Sunday January 14, 2018(909) 395-2852 / jhigbee@ontariopolice.org

Detectives are releasing the booking photograph of Youth Pastor Gerardo Custodio Jr., believing there may be additional victims or witnesses and they are encouraging them to come forward.

Gerardo Custodio Jr. has been the Youth Pastor for many years at the Iglesia La Familia De Dios Church located at 1305 North Euclid Avenue in Ontario. Gerardo Custodio Jr. was away from the church while attending college but has been back since 2011.

His father, Gerardo Custodio Sr. is the Senior Pastor of the church which opened in 1995.

On Saturday, January 14, officers interviewed two women who had come in to the Ontario Police Department to report that they had been victims of sexual abuse, committed by the Youth Pastor of their church.

The first victim was 14-years-old when the alleged events took place, including several incidents on the church property. Victim-1 stated that she had contact with Gerardo Custodio Jr. between 2012 and 2014 when she was 14-years-old and he was 24-years-old.

The second victim said she was 15-years-old when the alleged events occurred between her and Gerardo Custodio Jr. These incidents happened between 2014 and 2015 when Gerardo Custodio Jr. was 26-years-old.

Detectives have arrested 30-year-old Gerardo Custodio Jr. of Upland, who is being charged with several counts of engaging in lewd acts with a minor. He is also being held on several additional charges involving both victims. He was transported to the West Valley Detention Center where his bail has been set at \$3 million dollars.

Anyone with information or any additional victims are asked to call the Ontario Police Department at (909) 986-6711, or Detective Jeff Zeen at (909) 395-2744.

Information can also be reported anonymously by calling WE-TIP at (800) 78-CRIME or online at <u>www.wetip.com</u>



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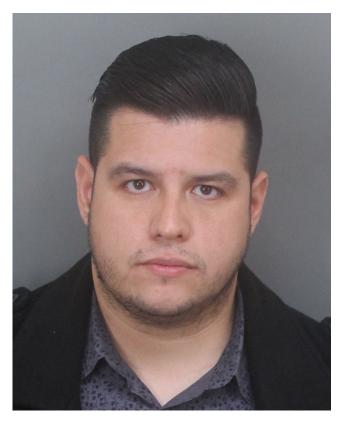
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**INCIDENT:** Youth Leader Arrested for Lewd Acts W/Minor

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Gerardo Custodio Jr.