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Registered San Jose sex offender arrested after school visit

By Sandra Gonzales
Mercury News

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Daniel Duran's inquiries seemed ordinary enough - a 41-year-old San Jose man asking about a home for sale in Morgan Hill.

But then, things got weird.

There was the time police say he told a real estate agent he needed to pray with her because she was so beautiful it was a sin. Or other times when residents would find him in their yards, and he would say he was hoping to buy a home. Sometimes, he would just knock on doors and ask whether a vehicle was for sale even though there was no sale sign.

So residents got suspicious and began digging, finding him listed on the California Megan's Law sex offender registry Web site. On Wednesday, he was arrested for being a registered sex offender on school grounds unlawfully. Duran to ld police he had been working at Photo-Find Missing Children's Center in San Jose since last July, passing out fliers of missing children.

Duran apparently already was on the radar of authorities in Pleasanton, where earlier this month he began approach ing real estate agents, several of them women, and posed as a potential home buyer. Although he wasn't charged with a crime, authorities there became concerned because he is a convicted sex offender and his behavior was questionable .

On March 21, Duran apparently moved his search of homes for sale from Pleasanton to Morgan Hill.

In addition to approaching real estate agents - mostly women - he went to Nordstrom Elementary School and asked a maintenance worker about

the quality of the school, claiming he wanted to enroll his children, said Morgan Hill police Commander David Swing. Duran does not have children, Swing said. But he does have two prior convictions for violent sexual crimes, which prohibit him from being on school grounds.

"Not everything he did made a whole lot of sense," Swing said.

Duran is being held in Santa Clara County Jail on \$6,000 bail.

Contact Sandra Gonzales at sgonzales@mercurynews.com or (408) 920-5778.

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