Girl, 15, recants kidnapping, rape story

RICHMOND, Calif., Jan. 18 (UPI) -- A 15-year-old California girl has admitted she made up a story about being kidnapped at gunpoint and gang-raped, authorities say.

Richmond, Calif., police said Sunday that the girl made up the story because she was late getting home, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

The newspaper said the girl's account of being attacked Friday by four strangers triggered fears in Richmond, where the gang-rape of a 16-year-old girl last year garnered much attention. It also reportedly prompted a vigorous police investigation, sending detectives on a search for a black Buick as described by the girl.

Police spokesman Lt. Mark Gagan told the Chronicle the girl confessed she made up the allegations on Sunday after she called authorities along with her parents.

"The victim made statements changing her story from a forcible kidnap and rape at gunpoint to saying she was with people she knew and had made up the story because she was late getting home," Gagan said.