THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: April 8, 2007 (Sunday)
Time: 1300 Hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Jeff Sferra
Homicide Unit
(619) 531-2275

BODY PARTS RECOVERED IN HARBISON CANYON; BELIEVED TO BE FROM PALM CITY MURDER VICTIM

San Diego Police Department Homicide detectives, with the assistance of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, have recovered the second of two human legs from Harbison Canyon.

Last night, San Diego Sheriff's Homicide Detail detectives notified the San Diego Police Homicide Unit that they had located a human leg in the 1400 block of Harbison Canyon Road. San Diego Police Homicide detectives responded to the scene to assist in recovery of the leg. This morning, they returned to the scene with personnel from the San Diego Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team. At 9:02 a.m., they discovered the second leg several yards up a slope from where the first leg was found.

The legs are believed to be from the body of Allen Burton Hawes. On February 26, 2007, Hawes' torso was found in the Otay River in Palm City. On February 27, his head was found along southbound I-5, near 28th Street. A short while later, one of his hands was found along southbound 163, at the exit for southbound I-5.

During the course of the investigation, San Diego Police Homicide detectives developed information that the legs had possibly been disposed of somewhere in the area of Harbison Canyon, but were never able to pinpoint the location.

On February 29, Gerald Michael Nash was arrested for Hawes' murder. He is currently in San Diego County jail, awaiting his next court appearance.

The legs were removed from the scene by the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office and will be autopsied later in the week.

###