THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POLICE REQUEST CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO LOCATE MURDER SUSPECT

The San Diego Police Department's Homicide Unit requests the media and public's continued assistance, both in San Diego and beyond, in the search for murder suspect Ralph Stephen Garbarini, 45.

On December 30, 2006, at approximately 9:15 p.m., two couples were sitting inside Extraordinary Desserts when Garbarini stared at them for an extended period. After being escorted from the restaurant, Garbarini returned ten minutes later, immediately walked to the couples' tables, and shot two men. Michael Fineman, 44, died from his injuries, and the second victim is still recovering. A portion of the restaurant's video surveillance was released to the media, which led to the identification of Garbarini as the murder suspect.

At the time of the murder, Garbarini had been in San Diego for only four weeks. Investigators learned that Garbarini left San Diego after the murder and was in Redondo Beach within two days. He is believed to have moved east since that time, and credible sightings have placed Garbarini and his vehicle in the vicinity of Nogales and Rio Rico, Arizona.

Garbarini has lived and worked in Jackson, CA, Arizona, and Mexico. He generally works in construction, is a skier and surfer, and is known to use health club memberships (for shower usage). Garbarini's vehicle, a 1990 Toyota pickup truck, CA 7E76312, with a wooden camper shell and customized camouflage paint, is still outstanding. Garbarini is believed to be living in the vehicle.

The weapon in the case is also outstanding, so consider Garbarini armed and dangerous. Anyone who spots Garbarini or his truck is asked to call police immediately or the Crime Stoppers anonymous, toll-free tip line at (888) 580-TIPS. You may be eligible for a reward of up to $1000 for information leading to an arrest in this case.

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