THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: October 28, 2007 (Sunday)
Time: 0915 Hours

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POLICE INVESTIGATE OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN GASLAMP

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating an officer-involved shooting that occurred in the Gaslamp neighborhood last night.

At approximately 1:45 a.m., officers were on foot patrol in the area of 500 Market Street when their attention was drawn to a motorist who was squealing her tires. The driver, later identified as Melanie Yeager, 22, turned north on Fifth Avenue in violation of a barricade prohibiting the turn. Officers tried to stop Yeager, but she continued past them and drove to the corner of Fifth Avenue and 'G' Street. Yeager tried to squeeze between a vehicle stopped for the red light and a parked police car, striking both vehicles. Yeager then turned left and headed westbound on 'G' Street, which is a one-way, east-only street. As Yeager crossed through the intersection, she struck a pedestrian. Officers caught up to Yeager and yelled for her to stop. Yeager backed into a parked vehicle, then turned the wheel to continue westbound against traffic. As she drove towards an officer, the shooting officer fired one round, which missed Yeager. Yeager continued one-half block west before officers stopped and arrested her.

The pedestrian and the officer struck by the vehicle suffered minor injuries and were were treated and released. Yeager was arrested for two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs, and ten counts of hit & run driving.

The officer who fired his weapon is a 12-year veteran of the police department.

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