THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: August 8, 2007 (Wednesday)
Time: 1400 Hours

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OFFICERS AND SUSPECT IDENTIFIED IN OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN LINDA VISTA

On August 7, 2007, at approximately 6:45 p.m., officers located a suspect wanted for attempted murder at an apartment complex in the 6600 block of Linda Vista Road. The suspect was wanted in connection with the attempted murder case in Otay Mesa West that occurred on August 4, 2007. The suspect was also wanted for an outstanding no bail felony warrant. As the suspect was walking away from the complex, he saw responding officers and drew a handgun from his waistband as he attempted to flee. When he raised the firearm toward officers, one officer fired his handgun at the suspect.

The suspect fled into the courtyard of the complex. As he attempted to escape, he was confronted by two officers at the rear of the complex. The suspect fired several rounds at the two officers, striking one officer in the lower abdomen. Both officers returned fire, fatally injuring the suspect. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. The suspect's handgun was located next to his body and the bullet that struck the injured officer was recovered.

The deceased suspect has been identified as Dario Martinez, 28.

The involved officers are William Pettus, a ten year employee, Matthew Dobbs, a 16 year employee and David Highsmith, a 12 year employee of the Department. Officer Pettus, who suffered a gunshot wound, underwent surgery last night at a local hospital and is in good condition.

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