THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUSPECT IN FEBRUARY 2000 MURDER ARRESTED IN MEXICO

On October 9, 2007, at approximately 5:00 p.m., officers from the State Preventive Police in Mexico arrested Emanuel Omar Maldonado in Tijuana, Mexico for the murder of Leah Tadeo.

On February 17, 2000, Tadeo attended a small gathering of friends and acquaintances at a home located in the 4300 block of Logan Avenue. At some point, without provocation, Maldonado placed a shotgun to the back of Tadeo's head and fired one shot. The attack was completely unprovoked and Tadeo had no knowledge she was about to be shot. She died at the scene.

An arrest warrant was issued for Maldonado several days after the murder however; it was believed he fled to Mexico. The case was featured on the television show "America's Most Wanted," and a provisional warrant for Maldonado's arrest was issued in Mexico. Mexican law enforcement officials received information on Maldonado's whereabouts and were able to take him into custody. He will be extradited to the United States and charged with murder.

Both Maldonado and Tadeo were 17 years of age at the time of the murder.

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