THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: April 29, 2007 (Sunday)
Time: 0145 Hours

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POLICE INVESTIGATE STABBING DEATH IN MISSION BEACH

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating the stabbing death of a male in South Mission Beach last night.

At 6:52 p.m., citizens alerted an officer to a fight on the beach at the foot of Ventura Place. The officer arrived to find an unconscious male victim suffering from an apparent stab wound. Lifeguards and paramedics attempted to save the victim's life, but he died at a trauma center at 7:26 p.m.

Witnesses said the victim and suspect were in an argument that escalated into a physical encounter before the suspect pulled out a knife and stabbed the victim. After the stabbing, the suspect walked his bicycle to the parking lot on the south side of Ventura Place, placed the bicycle in the bed of a pickup truck, and drove away.

Witnesses provided a partial license plate on the suspect vehicle that enabled officers and detectives to identify a possible suspect with an address in North Park. At approximately 2245 hours, officers received information that the suspect and vehicle were in the 3200 block of Monroe Avenue. They established a perimeter on the block, located the truck with a bicycle in its bed, and took Richard Welk, 46, into custody when he came out of a residence.

Welk was arrested for murder, and he will be booked into County Jail. The victim has been identified, but his name is being withheld pending family notification.

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