THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: December 6, 2008 (Saturday)
Time: 0730 Hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Kevin Rooney
Homicide Unit
(619) 531-2425

POLICE INVESTIGATE DOUBLE MURDER IN VALENCIA PARK

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating the shooting deaths of a 15-year-old male and a 17-year-old female on a Valencia Park street last night.

At 12:55 a.m., officers responded to a report of a shooting at the corner of San Jacinto Drive and Groveland Drive. They arrived to find two victims down in the 200 block of San Jacinto Drive. Paramedics responded and pronounced 17-year-old Monique Palmer dead at the scene. Paramedics transported 15-year-old Michael Taylor to a trauma center, where he died at 1:36 a.m.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that Palmer and Taylor attended a party several blocks from the shooting location. Three vehicles, containing suspected gang members, showed up at the party. The occupants of the vehicles pointed handguns at the partygoers and yelled gang challenges at them before driving away.

Several minutes later, a group of people (including Palmer and Taylor) left the party and walked north on San Jacinto Drive. Two black males walked up to the group and started shooting at them. The males were last seen south on San Jacinto Drive.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

###