THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Time: 1500 hours

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Homicide Unit
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CITIZEN SHOOTS SUSPECT DURING ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

(San Diego) The San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit is investigating a shooting death that occurred inside of a local business earlier this morning.

Today at about 9:15 a.m., police officers received a radio call of a robbery occurring at the Old Coin Shop located at 2425 El Cajon Boulevard. The caller stated that two black males, one of them armed with a handgun, entered the store and confronted the owner and one of his employees. The suspect(s) indicated their intent to rob the store, and pointed a gun at the owner. Both the owner and his employee armed themselves, at which point an exchange of gunfire erupted between the suspects and the victims. The armed suspect was struck by gunfire and was quickly assisted by the second suspect who helped him exit the store. Neither victim was injured during the exchange of gunfire. The wounded suspect collapsed in the parking lot adjacent to the business, while his companion fled on foot with the handgun. Responding officers and paramedics tended to the wounded suspect, while other officers secured the business and attempted to locate the fleeing suspect.

The injured suspect, identified as 26-year-old Michael Anthony Watkins Jr., sustained gunshot wounds to his left leg and buttocks. He was transported to a local trauma center where he was pronounced dead at 9:54 a.m. Mr. Watkins was a resident of San Diego.

Patrol officers were able to find discarded clothing as well as a handgun in an alley approximately two blocks away from the shooting scene. The second suspect has not been located. He is described as a black male, about 5'10" tall with a thin build. He was last seen running southbound from the incident location, wearing a grey sweater and dark colored pants.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the SDPD Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2294 or Crime Stoppers anonymous, toll-free tip line at (888) 580-8477.

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