THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: February 24, 2009 (Tuesday)
Time: 1300 Hours

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

ARREST MADE IN FEBRUARY 20 DEATH OF TWO-YEAR-OLD BOY

(San Diego) San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives have arrested the father of a two-year-old boy who died on Friday afternoon.

On February 19, 2009, paramedics were called to a residence in the 10200 block of San Diego Mission Road on a report of a non-breathing child. The child was transported to a trauma center, where he was pronounced dead the next afternoon. The child was identified as Bennie Harris III.

The Child Abuse and Homicide Units investigated the circumstances surrounding the child's death, and an autopsy revealed he died from blunt force trauma to the head. The child's father, Bennie Harris, Jr., 28, was the only person with the child when the injuries were suffered.

This morning, at approximately 9:25 a.m., detectives from the Criminal Intelligence Unit arrested Harris, Jr. in the 400 block of Greenfield Drive in El Cajon. Harris, Jr. will be booked into San Diego Central Jail for one count of murder and one count of assault resulting in the death of a child under eight years of age.

###