THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: March 6, 2009 (Friday)
Time: 1100 hours

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POLICE INVESTIGATE DEATH OF DOWNTOWN RESIDENT

(San Diego) San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives are investigating an attack that occurred Tuesday evening, which led to the death of a 47-year-old male.

On March 3, 2009, at about 8:30 p.m., paramedics received a call of an injured male in front of the Downtown Library at 820 E Street. Emergency personnel provided initial treatment to the injured male and transported him to UCSD Hospital for further medical assistance. San Diego Police did not receive a radio call to 820 E Street on the evening of March 3, and the cause of the internal head injury was not suspicious at that time. On March 4, 2009, at about 11:30 a.m., UCSD staff requested that SDPD respond to the hospital to further evaluate the incident that caused the victim's injuries. While at the hospital, patrol officers spoke to a friend of the victim who stated that the injuries were the result of a fight between the victim and another transient. According to the witness, the victim was punched in the face, causing him to fall to the ground and strike his head on the pavement. Hospital staff indicated that the victim's condition had worsened and he was not expected to survive the injuries.

Patrol and detective personnel assigned to Central Division began the follow-up investigation related to the attack. Within a couple of hours they identified the suspect as 30-year-old John Michael Jackson. An extensive search was conducted and the suspect was located and arrested in the downtown area yesterday at 5:50 a.m. Jackson was transported to jail and booked on one count of felony assault.

The victim, identified as Steven P. Fischer, 47 did not survive the attack and was pronounced dead yesterday at 8:12 p.m. Homicide Unit detectives, with the assistance of Central Division will assume the investigation. The suspect will be re-booked on one count of murder. An autopsy is scheduled for this afternoon.

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

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