THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

San Diego Police Department

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PURSUIT FROM PACIFIC BEACH AREA NETS ARRESTS

(San Diego) On February 21, 2009 at about 11:30 p.m. a canine unit made a traffic stop on south bound Interstate 5 at Grand Avenue. The traffic stop resulted from a call from a bar at 700 Garnet complaining about a group of males who were there trying to cause fights. The caller indicated that the suspects left the area in a red van, and the canine officer spotted the van and attempted to stop it. The SDPD ABLE helicopter responded to monitor the stop as there were six occupants in the vehicle.

The driver failed to yield to the canine officer and left going south on Interstate 5. The car exited at Sea World Drive and proceeded to Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and headed west. They then drove onto Longbranch Avenue in Ocean Beach. As the car turned onto Bacon Street, the right rear door opened and an occupant fell or jumped out. When the car turned east onto Brighton Avenue, another occupant fell or jumped out. The car continued and finally came to stop on Brighton Avenue.

The ABLE crew kept the suspect vehicle in sight and directed officers on the ground to where the driver surrendered. The remaining occupants took off running. Ultimately, six suspects were detained and questioned. As a result of the questioning, it was discovered that at least one of these suspects was involved in an assault with a deadly weapon case that occurred on Saturday, January 21, 2009 at about 7:30 p.m. in the 300 block of 39th Street. David Ochoa, 9/27/1988, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon in connection with the 39th Street case. The other individuals were questioned and released pending the investigation.

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