THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: December 31, 2006 (Sunday)
Time: 0720 Hours

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Homicide Unit
(619) 531-2425

POLICE INVESTIGATE DOUBLE SHOOTING AT PARK WEST RESTAURANT

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating a shooting inside a Park West restaurant that left one person dead and another wounded.

Just before 9:30 p.m., two couples were sitting in the indoor dining area of Extraordinary Desserts, located in the 2900 block of Fifth Avenue, when a male stood near their table for no apparent reason. When the male began to stare at the couples, the couples asked an employee for assistance. The employee escorted the male from the restaurant.

Five minutes later, the male re-entered the restaurant, immediately walked over to the two couples, and shot both males. The shooter walked out of the restaurant and was last seen southbound on Fifth Avenue on foot. One victim died inside the restaurant at 9:36 p.m., and the other victim was transported to a hospital for injuries that are not considered life-threatening. The deceased victim, 44, has been positively identified, but his name is not being released at this time.

The shooter is described as a white male in his 40's, 5'3" – 5'7", 140 pounds, unshaven, with discolored teeth and thinning brown hair. He was wearing earth-tone clothing and tennis shoes, and he carried a dark-colored backpack.

Video surveillance captured the initial encounter between the suspect and victims, and it will be released to the media and general public in the hope of identifying the suspect. Copies of the video will be available at the SDPD Watch Commander's Office as soon as the editing process is finalized.

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

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