

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Captain Mary Cornicelli

Date: February 11, 2007 (Sunday) Homicide Unit Time: 0715 Hours (619) 531-2775

POLICE INVESTIGATE FATAL OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN EMERALD HILLS

San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives are investigating an officer-involved shooting last night that left a man dead in Emerald Hills.

At approximately 10:45 p.m., two officers working as partners in a patrol car were driving eastbound in the 5600 block of Kenwood Street when they saw an SUV fail to stop for a stop sign at the intersection of Pyramid Street and Kenwood Street. The officers made a u-turn and were able to locate the car a block away in the 600 block of Bollenbacher Street. The car pulled into the driveway of a house. The driver stayed inside the car as the two officers approached it on foot.

One officer went to the driver's door and asked the driver to turn off the ignition. The other officer went to the passenger side of the car and spotted what appeared to be a handgun in the passenger area. He yelled to the other officer, who grabbed the suspect's wrists to keep him from reaching for the gun. The suspect pulled away from the officer, started the ignition, put the car in reverse and smashed into the side of the police car. He then started moving forward in the driveway.

Believing that they were in immediate jeopardy from the suspect getting access to the gun, as well as being hit by the suspect's car, both officers fired their duty weapons at the car. As the suspect drove forward, the car struck the garage door. The suspect backed up again and then drove forward again. This time, he turned the car in the driveway and drove through a small area of the front yard towards one of the officers. The car finally stopped when it struck a car parked in the street in front of the house.

The two officers put out an emergency call on their police radio. With assistance from responding officers, they determined that the suspect had been wounded by the gunfire. They removed him from the car and provided emergency medical aid until paramedics arrived. Paramedics were unable to revive the suspect and he was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m.

The suspect has been identified, but his name will not be released until next of kin are notified.

One of the officers involved in the shooting is an 11-year veteran of the Police Department and the second officer has been with the Police Department for 1 ½ years.