



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: August 21, 2009 (Friday)

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Homicide Unit
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POLICE INVESTIGATE MURDER IN BAY TERRACES NEIGHBORHOOD

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating a shooting that occurred this morning resulting in the death of an 18-year-old male.

At about 2:15 a.m., patrol officers received a radio call of a shooting at 7300 Paradise Valley Road. Southeastern Division patrol officers arrived on-scene and found a Hispanic male suffering from apparent gunshot wounds. The victim was found near the north sidewalk of 7300 Paradise Valley Road, near the intersection of Briarwood Road. Paramedics arrived with patrol officers and attempted life saving measures however the victim died at the scene as a result of the gunshot wounds. The victim was pronounced dead at 2:27 a.m.

The investigation has revealed that the victim and a male friend were walking together on the north sidewalk of 7300 Paradise Valley Road, when they were confronted by two suspects who were also walking on Paradise Valley Road. A verbal altercation occurred between the young men, which included a "gang challenge" issued by one of the suspects. The suspect then displayed a handgun and shot at the victim several times. The complete motivation for the attack is not known at this time although the incident is being handled as a gang-related murder.

The victim has been identified as 18-year-old Guillermo D. Esparza. Esparza is a resident of San Diego most recently residing in the Bay Terraces community.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or San Diego County Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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