



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OPERATION STAMPEDE

(San Diego) This morning San Diego Police officers along with investigators from other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies served several arrest and search warrants at various locations in San Diego County. At this point in the investigation, 31 suspects have been arrested.

The multi-agency investigation dubbed Operation “Stampede” began in December 2008. The targets of the probe are violent street gang members who were involved in five gang-related homicides in a fifteen-month period. They were also involved in numerous assaults, residential robberies and drug and weapons trafficking.

Today a total of thirteen arrest warrants and five search warrants were served. These warrants resulted in 21 arrests and confiscation of the following contraband: 14 firearms (in addition to those mentioned below), numerous rounds of ammunition, one ballistic vest and marijuana being grown inside a garage.

During this undercover investigation 30 weapons that were set to be sold to individuals in Mexico were purchased and or recovered by detectives. Narcotics from several designated targets were also purchased by undercover officers.

In addition, at least five violent acts that these suspects were preparing to engage in were prevented from occurring as a result of this investigation.

Three SDPD homicide cases were solved as a result of this operation. Twenty-year-old Anthony W. Zendejas was arrested today for two murders. The first occurred on August 27, 2007 in Colina Park. The victim was 14-year-old Javier Quiroz. Quiroz was shot multiple times while walking near the park at about midnight. No witnesses came forward with information in this case. It remained unsolved until Operation Stampede.

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The second case Zendejas is believed responsible for occurred on April 19, 2008 and the victim was 21-year-old Angel Perez Hernandez. Hernandez was shot multiple times in front of a market in the 5000 block of Imperial Avenue at about 5 p.m. There were witnesses at the scene but investigators were not able to identify the shooter until Operation Stampede. Twenty-one-year-old Abran Franco was also arrested today in connection with this case.

Paul Fryklind, age 20, was previously arrested and today will be booked for the murder of 19-year-old Ramon Beltran Rivera which occurred on March 31, 2008 at about 11:30 p.m. Rivera was shot several times while standing in front of a market in the 6800 block of Imperial Avenue. There were two female victims of gunshot wounds in this case and they both survived their injuries. As a result of this investigation, Fryklind was identified as the suspect in this case.

Operation Stampede involved a collaborative effort on the part of the following agencies: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF), the Special Services Unit of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Customs & Border Protection (CBP), San Diego County Probation and the San Diego County District Attorney's Office (SDCDA).

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