

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arrests Made in Mt. Hope Homicide of 14-Year-Old Juvenile

San Diego – On Monday, January 31, 2022, at approximately 4:18 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received a call of a shooting at 36th Street and J Street in the Mt. Hope neighborhood.

Officers arrived at the location and discovered a male teenager down at the scene. He appeared to have suffered at least one gunshot wound. Medics performed life saving measures and transported him to a nearby hospital. Unfortunately, he was pronounced deceased at the hospital. His family described him as a 14-year-old Hispanic juvenile. His name will not be released at this time.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene and began investigating the incident. Preliminary information indicated that the victim was walking southbound with a group on 36th Street near J Street. A gray or silver SUV with multiple occupants approached and at least one round was fired from the vehicle, striking the victim. The vehicle sped away but the plate was reported to police.

Officers recognized that this plate matched a Toyota Highlander that was involved in an incident earlier in the day. At 3:35 p.m., San Diego Unified School Police were addressing a fight and large crowd at 1155 C Street and requested cover from San Diego Police. Some of the members of the crowd left in the silver Toyota Highlander.

At 5:07 p.m., Mid-City patrol officers located the Toyota Highlander at 4600 Utah Street, with a group of males around the vehicle. Officers detained two of the group connected to the vehicle. An unknown number of the group fled on foot. Eventually two who fled were located in a nearby apartment and taken into custody without incident.

Based on information gathered through subsequent investigation, all four people detained were arrested for murder:

- (1) Bryan Escobedo, an 18-year-old Hispanic male
- (2) Ethan Peaslee-Guerrero, a 19-year-old Hispanic male
- (3) Omar Morales, an 18-year-old Hispanic male

- (4) A 17-year-old Hispanic male juvenile whose name will not be released due to his age.

The adults were booked into County Jail. The juvenile was booked into Juvenile Hall. This investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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