

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Officer Involved Shooting in the Barrio Logan Neighborhood

San Diego—On Thursday August 31, 2017, at approximately 11:48 p.m., San Diego Sheriff Deputies located a stolen 2006 Range Rover in the Spring Valley Area. They attempted to stop the vehicle, but the driver failed to stop and a pursuit was initiated. The driver drove northbound on the 125 freeway, to the westbound I-8 Freeway, and then southbound on the 163 freeway. When the suspect exited into the downtown area, the San Diego Police Department assumed the pursuit from Sheriff and California Highway Patrol Units. Because the suspect was driving erratically, SDPD ground units discontinued the pursuit. The suspect was monitored by SDPD's helicopter (ABLE). The suspect continued to speed and drive erratically within the downtown area of San Diego. During this time, the suspect encountered SDPD units who were deployed in the area. On one occasion, the suspect intentionally tried to ram an occupied marked SDPD unit that had pulled to the curb. On another occasion, the suspect attempted to ram a uniformed SDPD officer that was out of his car and attempting to set up a spike strip.

The suspect drove in the MTS Trolley Yard located at 1535 Newton Avenue. Officers who had been following the driver from a distance, drove into the yard. As the first officer drove into the yard, the suspect turned his vehicle around and accelerated directly at the officer who was still in his vehicle. Fearing that the suspect was going to intentionally ram his marked vehicle, the officer fired several rounds at the suspect from his handgun. The suspect swerved and drove out of the yard. No collision occurred.

The pursuit was reinitiated and the officers pursued the suspect to the intersection of Broadway and 6th Avenue. While the suspect was making a slow speed u-turn at the intersection, the same officer intentionally struck the suspect's vehicle, ending the pursuit. The suspect was taken into custody without further incident.

The suspect was not injured during the shooting, but complained of pain as a result of the collision. He was taken to a local hospital and medically cleared.

The San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit responded to the scene and is conducting the Officer Involved Shooting Investigation.

The suspect has been identified as 21-year old Jeremiah Fetalaiga of La Mesa. Fetalaiga will be booked into San Diego County Jail for Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Peace Officer, Felony Failure to Yield, and Possession of a Stolen Vehicle.

The involved officer is a nine year veteran of the San Diego Police Department and currently assigned to the Canine Unit.

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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