

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

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**Officer Involved Shooting in Chollas Creek**

On September 28, 2021, at approximately 5:40 p.m., San Diego Police Department patrol officers initiated a traffic stop on a motorcycle at 5300 Lea Street for having an obstructed license plate. The suspect riding the motorcycle failed to stop, sped up to evade the officers, and a short vehicle pursuit began. The pursuit ended when the motorcycle tipped on its side and crashed at 5300 Wightman Avenue.

The suspect fled on foot and was pursued by the officers. At the intersection of Shiloh Road and Rex Avenue, the suspect presented a firearm and fired at least one shot at the closest officer. That officer discharged his service weapon and the suspect was struck at least twice. The suspect was transported to a local hospital and continues to be treated for his injuries. The firearm the suspect was carrying was recovered at the scene. The San Diego Police Homicide Unit was called to the scene to investigate the incident, collect evidence, and conduct interviews.

The suspect has been identified as Jesus Morales. He is described as a 35-year-old Hispanic male.

The name of the officer involved in the shooting is not being released at this time. He has been with the department since January 2021 and is currently assigned to the Field Training Administration.

The investigation and review process for an officer-involved shooting is extremely thorough. When the Homicide Unit completes their investigation, it will be reviewed by the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to determine if officers bear any criminal liability for their actions. The Internal Affairs Unit will conduct an investigation to determine if there were any policy violations, and the Shooting Review Board will evaluate the tactics used by the officers. The Commission on Police Practices will conduct a review of the incident and provide any appropriate recommendations. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's Office will also be monitoring the investigation.

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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