

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, May 16, 2022

CONTACT:

Sgt. Victoria Houseman (858) 573-5067 or vhouseman@pd.sandiego.gov

Torrey Pines Double Fatal Collision Arrest

San Diego – San Diego Police investigators have arrested a Moreno Valley man in connection with a car accident that killed two people. On the evening of April 25th, 19-year-old Christopher Schmittel was driving a Subaru WRX at a high rate of speed, southbound on 13000 N. Torrey Pines Road, in the Torrey Preserve neighborhood of San Diego. Schmittel lost control of the vehicle which hit a guardrail, went off a ledge, and landed on the beach. Two passengers, both 19-year-old men, were ejected from the vehicle. They both suffered fatal injuries and were pronounced dead at the scene. Two other passengers, a 19-year-old man and an 18-year-old man, suffered serious injuries and were transported to the hospital.

Schmittel also sustained serious injuries and was transported to the hospital. He is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and drugs during the crash. On May 15th, the Fugitive Task Force arrested Schmittel at his home in Moreno Valley. He was booked into the Vista Detention Facility on two counts of murder, two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter, and felony DUI.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information, is asked to call the San Diego Police Department at 619-531-2000, or the anonymous Crime Stoppers tip line at 888-580-8477.

###