

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Diego and National City Police Departments Investigate Homicide of Male

San Diego / National City – On October 5, 2022, at approximately 1:35 p.m., the National City Fire Department responded to a brush fire in the area of 2400 Harbison Avenue in National City. Upon arriving, Fire Department personnel saw what appeared to be a large pile of trash engulfed in flames. As Fire Department personnel extinguished the flames, they located a deceased male on the ground within the debris. Officers and Detectives from the National City Police Department were called to the scene and assumed responsibility for the preliminary investigation.

Over the course of the next several days, Detectives from the National City Police Department investigated the suspicious death of the male. An autopsy of the male was conducted. It was determined the male had sustained multiple gunshot wounds to his upper body and it appeared his body was disposed of at the location of the fire. During the course of their investigation, National City Police Detectives determined the male was possibly killed in the City of San Diego and transported to the location where his body was found. Investigators from the National City Police Department contacted the San Diego Police Department and a joint investigation into the murder of this male was conducted with the San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit assuming responsibility for the investigation.

Although it is early in the investigation, Homicide Detectives have learned it appears the male victim was killed in a converted building in the 1600 block of Dahlia Avenue in San Diego sometime in the afternoon hours of October 3, 2022. Afterwards, the suspect transported and disposed of the victim's body at the location of the fire. It appears the suspect and victim knew each other and the victim was shot and killed during an argument. Detectives were able to identify a suspect in this case. Shortly after 1 p.m. on October 7, the suspect was located at 700 13th Street in Imperial Beach and apprehended without incident.

The victim has been identified as Jaime Barba. Barba is described as a 55-year-old Hispanic male and is a resident of San Diego. The suspect has been identified as Juan

Carlos Acosta-Sanchez. He is described as a 42-year-old Hispanic male and is a resident of San Diego. Acosta-Sanchez was booked into San Diego County Jail for one count of murder.

Detectives are in the process of collecting evidence from the scene and are asking for the public's assistance with this 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. Furthermore, the San Diego Police Department would like to thank our law enforcement partners at the National City Police Department and the United States Marshall's Service for their assistance and cooperation in this homicide investigation.

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