

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **San Diego Police Department Impounds Four Vehicles involved in “Drifting” Sideshow that Resulted in Damage to Roadways and Private Businesses**

**San Diego** – On the morning of December 25<sup>th</sup>, multiple individuals participated in a ‘drifting sideshow’ at the intersection of Kerns Street and Drucker Lane. Officers from the Traffic and Southern Divisions responded to ensure public safety and protect property. Individuals connected with these activities were also involved in ‘drifting sideshows’ later in the day in the City of Chula Vista, damaging the city streets and private property.

Investigators identified seven vehicles and several drivers who participated in these events. On December 30<sup>th</sup>, SDPD’s Traffic Division seized four vehicles that were involved in this sideshow. An investigation is currently underway for felony vandalism, reckless driving, and the exhibition of speed.

The City of San Diego Transportation Department estimated the cost of repairing the roadway at Kerns Street and Drucker Lane at more than \$5,000. The City of Chula Vista and private property owners also sustained damage from these activities. The Chula Vista Police Department is conducting a similar investigation into these crimes.

State Bill 1472, signed by Governor Newsom in September, amended state law changing the definition of manslaughter, “gross negligence,” to include those “participating in a sideshow, an exhibition of speed, and speeding over 100 miles per hour [§192(e)(2) PC]. If a person willfully drives a vehicle with wanton disregard for the safety of others, and someone is killed as a result, the offending motorist can be charged with murder.

Drivers who willfully participate in illegal motor vehicle speed contests, exhibitions of speed, including intersection or freeway takeovers, motor vehicle stunts, and other similar acts are extremely dangerous to our community. The San Diego Police Department will continue to work with its law enforcement partners to prevent, respond, and hold accountable people who endanger our neighborhoods.

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