

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

CONTACT: Lieutenant Jud Campbell at (619) 533-5752 or [campbellj@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:campbellj@pd.sandiego.gov)

**Suspect Arrested in Shooting Death of Male in Chollas Creek**

**San Diego** – On July 30, 2023, at 7:23 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received several calls reporting a shooting that occurred in the 3700 block of Altadena Avenue in the Chollas Creek Neighborhood of San Diego. Officers from Mid-City Division were immediately dispatched and arrived within minutes. Upon arriving, they found a male lying in the street suffering from at least one gunshot wound to his upper body. Responding officers and paramedics provided medical aid to the victim prior to the male being transported to a local hospital for emergency treatment. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of the officers and medical personnel, the male was pronounced deceased at the hospital at 8:11 p.m. The deceased male has been previously identified as Marcelo Barajas of San Diego. He is described as a 35-year-old Hispanic male.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene to investigate. During the investigation, Detectives learned the victim was walking down the sidewalk when he was approached by a group of males. During the confrontation, one of the suspects produced a firearm and shot the victim. Through the course of the investigation, Detectives identified the suspect who shot the victim as Kevin Castaneda, described as a 20-year-old Hispanic male. Castaneda is a San Diego resident.

On November 13, 2023, at approximately 4:00 p.m., Castaneda was arrested at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, attempting to re-enter the United States from Mexico. Castaneda was booked into County Jail for murder.

This remains an active investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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