

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, January 12, 2023

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Victim Identified in East Village Homicide

San Diego – On Sunday, January 8, 2023, at approximately 7:26 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received a call of a stabbing at 100 17th Street in East Village. Officers from Central Division were immediately dispatched. Upon their arrival, they located a male lying in the roadway suffering from multiple stab wounds to his torso. The officers began first aid efforts until medics arrived and took over. Unfortunately, the male was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A potential suspect was detained at the scene. He is identified as Paul Bellow, described as a 57-year-old Black male believed to be homeless. Initially, he was transported to a local hospital and treated for minor injuries.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene to investigate. The preliminary information gathered was that Bellow entered a woman's tent at 100 17th Street, punched her, and then threatened to kill her while holding a knife to her throat. Shortly after that, he became involved in a physical altercation with the victim. During that altercation, Bellow stabbed the victim to death.

Detectives are searching the area for any physical evidence, surveillance video or any additional witnesses who may be able to provide more information.

The victim is now identified as Francisco Morales. He is described as a 41-year-old Hispanic male who was homeless at the time of his death.

Bellow was arrested and booked into County Jail for murder, criminal threats, brandishing a weapon, and burglary.

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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