

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second Arrest Made in Shooting Death of Male in Downtown San Diego

San Diego – On January 20, 2023, at 4:25 a.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received a radio call reporting shots being fired in the area of 600 L Street in Downtown San Diego. Officers from Central Division were dispatched and arrived within minutes. Upon arriving, they found a male on the sidewalk in the 300 block of 7th Avenue suffering from a gunshot wound to his upper body. Officers performed life saving measures until paramedics from San Diego Fire-Rescue arrived. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of police officers and medical personnel, the male suffered catastrophic injuries and he was pronounced deceased at the scene at 4:40 a.m.

As officers responded to this call and conducted their preliminary investigation, they learned the suspect(s) were part of a larger group when this incident occurred. A portion of that group fled in a white Jeep SUV while two suspects were reported to have fled on foot into a nearby multi-story parking garage. Officers stopped a vehicle matching that description at 300 5th Avenue and detained two adult females and one adult male. In addition, officers detained one additional male who was on foot and possibly with the suspect group. Those persons were later released. Officers also set a perimeter on the parking garage where the remaining two suspects were last reported to have been seen. Due to the serious nature of the crime and the likelihood the suspect was armed with a firearm, assistance from the San Diego Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Unit (S.W.A.T.) was requested. After several hours, officers were able to clear the parking garage and determined the suspects were no longer within the parking garage and there was no threat to persons in the area.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene and are currently investigating the incident. Detectives have learned the victim had a brief verbal confrontation with the suspect and members of his group in the area of 600 L Street immediately preceding the shooting. During that brief verbal exchange, the suspect produced a handgun and shot the victim at least one time in the upper body. The victim ultimately collapsed and died from his injuries while the suspect and his group fled the

area. Detectives have continued to work this case since it occurred. During the course of their investigation, they identified a second suspect in this case.

On January 28, 2023, at approximately 1300 hours, Jaelen Dower was arrested at 6500 Broadway in San Diego for his role in this case. Dower is described as a Black male, age 20, of San Diego. He was booked into San Diego County Jail for one count of Assault with a Deadly Weapon involving a Firearm and other firearms-related charges. Detectives are continuing to work this case and it is an active investigation.

The deceased male has been identified as John Reed of San Diego. He is described as a 29-year-old Black male.

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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