

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Victim and Suspect Identified From Homicide in Encanto Neighborhood and
Subsequent Officer-Involved Shooting**

San Diego – On August 28, 2023, at 8:42 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received multiple calls reporting shots being fired at a residence located in the 500 block of Iona Drive in the Encanto neighborhood of San Diego. Officers from Southeastern Division were dispatched and arrived within minutes. Upon arriving, the first responding officers saw a female and a dog down in the driveway in front of the residence where the gunshots were reported. Both appeared to be suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. As officers tried to approach and assist the female and the dog, a suspect began firing at the officers from within the residence. In response, one officer returned fire at the suspect before coordinating with other officers to perform an emergency rescue of the victim. It is unknown at this time if the suspect was struck by the rounds fired by the initial responding officer.

Officers utilized a patrol vehicle and performed an emergency operation to rescue the female down in the driveway and bring her safety. As officers performed this rescue, the suspect continued to fire multiple shots from inside his residence. Officers were able to move the female away from the scene where they performed life-saving measures until paramedics from San Diego Fire-Rescue arrived. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of officers and medical personnel, the female was suffering from multiple gunshot wounds to her upper body and leg and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Due to the fact the suspect had killed one person, one dog, and had fired and continued to fire multiple rounds at responding officers, assistance from the San Diego Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Unit (S.W.A.T.) was requested. Officers attempted to get the suspect to peacefully surrender, but the suspect refused. The suspect set fire to his residence. He was still in possession of his rifle and was ultimately shot by an officer. The suspect was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased at 10:58 p.m. Multiple firearms including a rifle, shotgun, and handgun were located at the residence.

Per the countywide MOU, the San Diego Sheriff's Department is conducting the investigation into the officer-involved shooting and will be the agency responsible for providing further details on that investigation.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene and are currently investigating the murder of the female. It is still early in the investigation and little is known about the circumstances leading up to the female's death, other than it appears the suspect is the victim's son and for unknown reasons he shot and killed his mother and two dogs.

The deceased female has been identified as Maria Rosario Morales of San Diego. She is described as a 74-year-old Hispanic female.

The suspect has been identified as Jesse Glen Nelson of San Diego. He is described as a 43-year-old Hispanic male. There are no other suspects in this incident. Further information on the officer involved shooting investigation will be released by the San Diego Sheriff's Department.

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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