

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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San Diego Police Investigating Assault, Suspect Deceased

San Diego – Just after midnight on Monday morning, the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) responded to a radio call of an assault with a deadly weapon at the Shoal Hotel located at 6750 La Jolla Blvd.

Responding officers soon learned that a front desk clerk of the hotel, now known as 23-year-old Aaron Tran, had entered the room of two hotel guests, where he assaulted one of them.

Tran had checked the two guests into their room, and later in the evening, used the hotel phone to call the women to tell them he needed to enter their room due to a water leak next door. Once inside, Tran walked with one of the victims to the bathroom area where he handed his cellular phone to her. She was able to read on his phone, "Don't scream, I have a knife and I will cut you, put your hands behind your back."

The victim looked up and saw that Tran was now holding a knife. A struggle ensued during which time the victim was cut with the knife near her collar bone. She was able to scream and wake up the other female in the room and they both fled into the parking lot and called 911.

Responding officers were not able to locate the suspect but learned he drove a white Honda and later obtained the license plate number. This information was broadcast citywide and approximately 30 minutes later, San Diego Harbor Police tried to make a stop of a wrong way driver in the area of Harbor Dr. and Market St. After losing sight of the vehicle, another call soon came in stating a white Honda had driven at a high rate of speed off the pier near the USS Midway.

Tran and his vehicle were eventually recovered from the bay. Tran was deceased and appeared to have self-inflicted injuries to his upper body.

The injured victim from the hotel was treated at the hospital and released.

This is an ongoing investigation. SDPD is seeking the public's help regarding this or any similar cases involving Tran. Any information can be directed to Lt. Paul Phillips, Northern Division, 858-552-1704 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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