

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# San Diego Police Investigating Hate Crime in Hillcrest Neighborhood

**San Diego** – The San Diego Police Department (SDPD) is investigating a hate crime-related vandalism from early Friday morning that happened in the area of 5th Ave. and Robinson St. in Hillcrest. The Department's LGBTQ+ Liaisons were contacted by local business owners to report the vandalism, which included a swastika and an anti-LGBTQ+ slur being spray painted on a trashcan and a wall in the area of 5th and Robinson.

Investigators from SDPD's Western Division were immediately sent to the scene to begin the investigation, search for evidence and collect any available video surveillance. Based on the preliminary investigation and private surveillance footage, between approximately 2 – 3 a.m. on Friday morning three unknown suspects wearing hooded sweatshirts committed the vandalism. It appears they possibly left the area in a vehicle similar to an early 2000's grey Buick Century, which was missing the right front hubcap.

SDPD is committed to ensuring a safe space for all members of our community and acts of hate such as this will not be tolerated. SDPD will be using all available resources to identify these suspects and bring them to justice. There will be an increased police presence in the area to prevent additional crimes and give the community a sense of security as they go about their lives.

This investigation is in the very early stages, and no other information can be shared at this time. Anyone with information regarding this incident or the suspects is asked to call Western Division at (619) 692-4800 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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