

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Deputy Involved Shooting Investigation

Santee – On Sunday evening, an officer involved shooting occurred after San Diego Sheriff Deputies responded to a report of an assault with a firearm at a residence in Santee. Three deputies fired their weapons after the suspect fired rounds at them.

On Sunday, July 27, 2025, at approximately 11:57 a.m., the San Diego Sheriff's Office received a call about an assault with a firearm and criminal threats at 9033 Willowgrove Avenue in Santee.

Deputies contacted the victims who had fled the scene for their safety. While speaking to the victims, deputies received information that the suspect was at 9016 Willowgrove Avenue and still armed with a handgun. Deputies obtained the suspect's phone number and attempted to contact him to negotiate a peaceful resolution. The man refused to speak with them and remained barricaded in the residence.

Sheriff Deputies requested the assistance of the Special Enforcement Detail (S.E.D) and Crisis Negotiation Team. Both units arrived and negotiated with the suspect for several hours, but he refused to come out. During the negotiations, a gunshot was heard from inside the residence. Fearing the suspect may have shot himself, S.E.D. breached the door and used a drone in an attempt to locate him and see if he needed medical aid. They saw the suspect was further barricading himself and deployed chemical agents into the house.

The suspect exited through the front door and fired rounds at the deputies. The rounds struck the armored vehicle parked in front of the residence. Three deputies fired their weapons striking the suspect, who was declared deceased at the scene.

The deputies who fired their weapons have been employed by the San Diego Sheriff's Office for approximately 15, 11, and 9 years. Each were equipped with body worn cameras, which were activated during this incident.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to investigate per the countywide memorandum of understanding regarding officer involved shootings.

Officer involved shooting investigations are extremely thorough, as is the review process. When Homicide completes its investigation, it will be reviewed by the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to determine if the officer bears any criminal liability for his actions. The San Diego Sheriff's Office will conduct an administrative investigation into the deputies' discharge of their firearms. The Federal Bureau of Investigations and the United States Attorney's Office will also be monitoring the investigation.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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