

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Decedents Identified in College Avenue Murder-Suicide

San Diego – On September 30, at about 1:05 p.m., officers were dispatched to an apartment on the 5700 block of College Avenue for a welfare check. A relative called and asked police to check on a family member who was not answering phone calls and had missed a scheduled work shift, which was unusual for her.

Officers knocked on the apartment door and briefly spoke with a man inside. He told officers everything was fine, told them to leave, and refused to open the door. His response raised officers' concerns, and they began gathering more information about the people who lived in the apartment. Based on what they learned, officers forced entry. They found a woman dead inside. She has been identified as Christina Ann Haley, 47.

Officers then searched the apartment for other possible victims or a suspect. They encountered a closed bedroom door. Based on the information available at the time, officers believed an armed person was possibly barricaded inside the room. Patrol officers left the apartment and requested help from SDPD's Emergency Negotiations Team and Special Response Team to help resolve the situation safely.

For several hours, officers tried to communicate with anyone inside the bedroom but got no response. Later that evening, officers entered the room and found a man dead from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. A handgun was found near him, and a rifle was also found inside the bedroom. He has been identified as Paul Cervantes Martinez, 40.

Detectives from the San Diego Police Department's Homicide Unit responded and took over the investigation. Based on evidence collected at the scene and witness interviews, investigators determined that Martinez shot and killed Haley, his girlfriend, the previous day. Investigators believe Martinez was the man who spoke with officers at the front door, and that he then barricaded himself in the bedroom with firearms.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner will determine the official cause and manner of both deaths.

Next of kin have been notified. Investigators do not believe there is any ongoing threat to the public.

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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