



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 6, 2009

Time: 1700 Hours

CONTACT: A/Lieutenant Bryan Pendleton

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2853

POLICE RELEASE NAME OF OFFICER INVOLVED IN GASLAMP SHOOTING

(San Diego) The San Diego Police Department has released the name of the officer involved in the fatal shooting of an armed, attempted robbery suspect which occurred on Monday, August 3, 2009.

The shooting occurred after a man walked into the outdoor patio area of a restaurant in the 600 block of Fifth Avenue and took a large knife from one of the tables. The suspect threatened employees with the same knife and then walked away. Moments later the same suspect walked into a restaurant in the 800 block of Fourth Avenue, brandished a large knife and demanded money from an employee. The suspect left the restaurant when the employee did not acknowledge the threat.

San Diego Police Officers located the suspect at the corner of Fourth and E Street. One officer contacted the suspect and ordered him to stop. The suspect knelt down and took a large knife from a backpack he was carrying. The officer gave repeated commands to the suspect to drop the knife and he refused and instead advanced on the officer in a menacing manner while screaming obscenities with the knife raised. The officer fired his handgun killing the suspect who was pronounced dead at the scene.

The officer is identified as Christopher Leahy, 28 a 7 year veteran of the department who is assigned to the Gang Suppression Team.

The decedent has been identified as Phillip Sewer, 48 of San Diego.

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