



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Time: 0450 Hours

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Homicide Unit

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POLICE INVESTIGATE FATAL OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN OAK PARK

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating an incident at an Oak Park residence that ended with a fatal officer involved shooting.

Last night at 9:48 p.m., officers were called to a violent disturbance at a residence in the 3200 block of Easy Street. The reporting party told SDPD Communications that her father was armed with a knife and was “going crazy.” Before officers arrived, the phone line to the residence remained open, and screaming could be heard in the background.

Officers arrived and saw Manuel De Lira, 50, emerging from the backyard of the residence while holding a beer bottle in one hand and a butcher knife in the other. Officers ordered De Lira to drop the weapon, but he ignored their commands and continued in a southeasterly direction through the front yard while raising the knife above his head. Officers deployed a taser and a beanbag shotgun in rapid succession, but with no effect. De Lira moved quickly toward a three-foot fence in front of the residence and cocked his arm back as if to throw the knife at the officers. As De Lira threw the knife at them (which landed in the street), three officers fired their weapons at him. De Lira collapsed on the fence before falling back into the yard. De Lira was transported to a trauma center where he died at 11:18 p.m.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that De Lira’s family called police because De Lira chased his adult daughter outside the house and slashed at her with the knife.

The officers involved in the shooting are assigned to Mid City Division and are three, two, and two year veterans of the department, respectively.

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