



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 8, 2010 (Thursday)

Time: 2000 Hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Kevin Rooney

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2425

POLICE INVESTIGATE ARMED ROBBERY AND OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit are detectives are investigating a series of incidents that began with an armed robbery in Pacific Beach, followed by a vehicle pursuit, shots fired by the suspect at a pursuing officer, and the suspect's apparent suicide in the Midway District.

At approximately 12:25 p.m., an armed male robbed the Radio Shack store at 1603 Garnet Avenue. The suspect fled the scene in a red vehicle with Colorado license plates. A citizen flagged down a Motor Unit officer at Lamont Street and Garnet Avenue and pointed out the fleeing suspect. The officer followed the vehicle as it turned on several streets before turning south on Ingraham Street. As he drove on Ingraham Street at Thomas Avenue, the suspect reached out his driver's window and fired multiple gunshots at the officer. As Ingraham Street narrows towards Crown Point, the suspect fired another volley of rounds at the officer.

As the suspect vehicle crossed the bridge over Fisherman's Channel, the Motor Officer returned fire at the suspect. The suspect continued on and fired a third (and final) volley of rounds as the vehicles crossed the bridge over Mission Bay Channel. The officer pursued the suspect into the Midway District, where the suspect pulled into a parking lot in the 3700 block of Sports Arena Boulevard. The suspect, still holding his handgun, jumped out of the vehicle and ran through a business complex. As the officer chased the suspect on foot, the suspect vehicle's female passenger (previously undetected) fled on foot in another direction.

The officer followed the armed suspect from a safe distance, briefly losing sight of him. The officer heard a gunshot, and when he turned a corner, he found the suspect lying on a sidewalk. The suspect was lying on his back, gun still in his hand, suffering from a gunshot wound. Paramedics pronounced the suspect dead at the scene at 12:40 p.m.

The suspect had no other injuries, and his manner of death is believed to be suicide. An autopsy will be performed tomorrow to confirm the cause and manner of his death. The suspect has been positively identified, but his name will not be released pending next-of-kin notification. The female passenger, identified as Chantel Lister, 23, was located nearby and was arrested for robbery.

The officer involved in the shooting is a 19-year-veteran of the department. He was not injured during the incident. His motorcycle was struck twice by gunfire.

•
###