



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1845 hours

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Homicide

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OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING IN NORMAL HEIGHTS

The San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit is investigating a fatal Officer-Involved shooting that occurred in the 3400 block of Adams Avenue at about 3:30 PM today.

Officers responded to a radio call of a violent disturbance in the middle of the street at the location. Witnesses said two males were involved in a fight and that one male was the aggressor, pushing the other male around in the street. One witness reported seeing the suspect take a swing at the victim with some type of a metal object.

The first officer to arrive on the scene was a detective from the Mid-City Division. He was driving an unmarked car and was in plain clothes. The detective got out of his car and contacted the suspect, identifying himself as a police officer. According to witnesses, the detective repeatedly told the suspect to calm down and tried to talk with him.

The suspect physically attacked the detective and they became involved in a violent struggle. The detective attempted to fend off the suspect using a baton, but was unsuccessful. The detective and suspect fell to the ground and the suspect was able to get a choke hold around the detective's neck with his arm. The detective tried to free himself from the hold but was unable to break the hold. The detective was having difficulty breathing and feared he would lose consciousness. He drew his duty weapon and fire one shot. The suspect was transported to a trauma center where he was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

The suspect is a white male, 31 years old. He lived in an apartment in the 3400 block of Adams Avenue. The person who was involved in the initial confrontation with the suspect has been identified as his roommate. The roommate said he came home this afternoon and the suspect was acting irrationally and suddenly attacked him, without provocation. He left the apartment to get away from the suspect, but the suspect followed him out into the street and continued to push him around. The roommate asked witnesses to call the police.

The detective is an 18 year veteran of the San Diego Police Department. He sustained minor injuries during the struggle, but did not require immediate medical attention. As a matter of policy, the detective has been placed on administrative assignment until the investigation is concluded.

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