



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 27, 2010 (Friday)

Time: 0900 Hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Kevin Rooney

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2425

POLICE INVESTIGATE MURDER IN CLAIREMONT MESA EAST PARK

San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit detectives are investigating the shooting death of a 15-year-old girl in a Clairemont Mesa park last night.

At 1:19 a.m., officers responded to a report of a shooting at Lindbergh Park in the 4100 block of Ashford Street. They arrived to find 15-year-old Joanna Vargas suffering from a single gunshot wound. Paramedics arrived and attempted to revive her, but she died at the scene at 1:36 a.m..

The preliminary investigation has revealed that Joanna and her female cousin went to the park with two males. As the group stood in the park, an unknown suspect fired a round at them, striking Joanna. The surviving witnesses noticed a white SUV facing north in the 4100 block of Ashford Street at the time of the shooting. The vehicle drove away at normal speed and was last seen turning westbound on Balboa Avenue. Whether the SUV is related to the shooting is not known.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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