



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 1, 2010 (Monday)

Time: 1500 Hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Kevin Rooney

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2425

TORREY PINES DEATH NOW BEING INVESTIGATED AS A MURDER

The death of a woman whose body was found inside a burning vehicle on Friday night has been ruled a homicide by the Medical Examiner's Office.

On Friday, October 29, at 9:20 p.m., UCSD Police and the San Diego Fire Department responded to a vehicle fire in a parking lot in the 3600 block of Voigt Drive. When the fire was extinguished, firefighters discovered the body of a female inside. The cause of her death was unknown until today, when an autopsy revealed she had been murdered. The victim's autopsy has been sealed, and details about her death will not be disclosed.

The victim has not been positively identified, but the registered owner of the vehicle (a resident of Carlsbad) has been missing since Friday. Detectives have been in contact with the vehicle owner's family since her disappearance.

Detectives hope to speak to the vehicle owner's estranged husband and ask for the public's help to locate him. He has been identified as Julio Angel Garcia-Puente, 50. Garcia-Puente is 5'8", 170 pounds, and his photo is at the bottom of this release. Garcia-Puente is unemployed and has no known vehicle or permanent address. He is known to frequent the cities of Carlsbad and San Marcos.

Anyone with information about this incident or Garcia-Puente's whereabouts is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit (619-531-2293), Crime Stoppers (888-580-8477), or their local law enforcement agency.



###