



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Lieutenant Jorge Duran

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2425

POLICE MAKE ARREST IN SOUTHCREST NEIGHBORHOOD MURDER

San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives have arrested a suspect in the August 12, 2012 murder of 51 year-old Eugene Smith in the Southcrest neighborhood.

On Sunday, August 12, 2012 at 5:12 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of 42nd Street and Gamma Street on a report of an assault with a deadly weapon. They arrived to find the victim in the middle of 42nd Street, just south of Gamma Street, suffering from several stab wounds. Officers began CPR until paramedics arrived, but the victim died at the scene at 5:37 p.m.

The preliminary investigation revealed that the victim was involved in a fight with two other males before he (the victim) collapsed in the street. The primary suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 20-30 years old, 6', thin, with tattoos on his chest. The second suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 20's, 6', thin, wearing dark clothing. As the victim collapsed, a four-door, silver sedan pulled up, and the suspects got inside. The vehicle was driven by a Hispanic female, in her 20's, with long dark hair. The vehicle was last seen south on 42nd Street.

Detectives identified 38 year-old Rafael Felipe Solano of San Diego County as one of the suspects. Solano was arrested at his residence and booked into County Jail on one count of Murder.