



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 6, 2015 (Friday)

Time: 0730 hours

CONTACT: Lieutenant Paul Rorrison

Homicide Unit

(619) 531-2425

POLICE IDENTIFY OFFICER INVOLVED IN PACIFIC BEACH SHOOTING

On Wednesday, November 4, 2015, at 2:58 p.m., San Diego Police Officers were on patrol in the 1700 block of Garnet Avenue and recognized a suspect wanted for several felony warrants out of Missouri. The 47 year old white male suspect was considered armed and dangerous and was believed to be armed with a handgun.

Officers attempted to contact the suspect, but he immediately ran southbound through an apartment complex. Officers pursued the suspect on foot for approximately two blocks, but momentarily lost sight of him. San Diego Police Air Support arrived and located the suspect hiding in a shed in-between two apartment buildings in the 1600 block of Thomas Avenue.

Additional officers, including a Canine Unit, arrived and set-up a perimeter around the shed. As the Canine Officer gave several verbal commands to surrender, the suspect suddenly ran from the shed and attempted to jump over an adjoining fence. The police dog was deployed and bit the suspect on the foot before the suspect broke free and jumped the fence.

The suspect climbed onto a ledge on the neighboring apartment building and turned towards the Canine Officer while reaching into his pockets. The Canine Officer gave several more verbal commands to show his hands, but the suspect refused to comply and continued to reach into his pockets, appearing to retrieve something. Based on the information regarding the suspect being armed and dangerous and his failure to comply with the officers' orders, the Canine Officer believed the suspect was retrieving a weapon and feared for his safety and the safety of the public. The officer discharged his handgun striking the suspect in the torso. Additional officers attempted life-saving measures, but the suspect succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene. No weapon was recovered at the scene.

The decedent has been identified as 47 year old Timothy Gene Smith of Missouri.

The officer involved in this incident is Canine Sergeant Scott Holslag, a 19 year veteran of the San Diego Police Department.

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