

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Victim Identified from Montgomery Waller Recreation Center Homicide**

**San Diego** – On May 5, 2023, at approximately 7:03 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received a call of a shooting at the Montgomery Waller Recreation Center in the Otay Mesa West neighborhood.

Officers from Southern Division arrived at the location and discovered multiple people suffering from gunshot wounds. Officers began to render lifesaving measures.

The first victim was, unfortunately, pronounced deceased at the scene. He is now identified as Robert Simmons. He is described as a 20-year-old Hispanic male.

The second victim was transported to a local hospital with multiple gunshot wounds to his torso. He is expected to survive his injuries. He is described as a 19-year-old Hispanic male. His name will not be released at this time.

A third male companion of the victims was also transported to a local hospital for evaluation, but it was later determined that he was not struck by gunfire.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene and began investigating the shooting. At this point in the investigation, it appears the victims arrived at the recreation center in a vehicle. Almost immediately upon arriving, they encountered a group of multiple Hispanic males in the parking lot. At least one of these males issued a gang challenge to the victims. The suspect group began throwing glass bottles at the victims. Then, at least one of the males began firing a gun at the victims, striking two of them. The males then left the area.

There was information that a white sedan left the recreation center at a high rate of speed following the shooting and drove eastbound on Coronado Avenue. Detectives are still determining its involvement.

Information on the suspects is very limited at this time. The best information provided is that the main suspect was possibly a 19 to 20-year-old Hispanic male with a thin build.

Detectives continue to work to determine the circumstances surrounding the shooting. Detectives are gathering and reviewing evidence and interviewing potential witnesses. This is an open and ongoing investigation.

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

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