

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 30, 2020

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Update on Officer-Involved Shooting in Core-Columbia Neighborhood

San Diego – At 5:47 p.m. on June 27, 2020, two uniformed San Diego Police Officers were in the area of 1200 6th Avenue. The officers noticed a male exiting a building along the west curb-line and recognized him from a recent wanted flier regarding a robbery because of distinctive tattoos on his face. The officers attempted to contact the male who drew a firearm and pointed it at one of the officers, prompting both of them to fire their service weapons. The man was struck at least once and fell to the ground. The officers handcuffed the man and immediately began providing first aid. The man was later transported by paramedics to a local hospital where he underwent surgery. No officers were injured during the incident.

Investigators from the San Diego Police Homicide Unit were called to the scene to handle the investigation. Based on witness interviews and surveillance footage in the area, when the officers attempted to contact the male he refused to cooperate with their directions and walked away. As he was walking, he dropped the items he was carrying in his hands and began reaching towards his waistband. As the officers were following the man, they split up with one officer in the street and one on the sidewalk. The man suddenly pulled an item from his waistband and turned towards the officer in the street and pointed the object directly at that officer. Both officers fired their service weapon at the male. Investigators are still processing evidence recovered at the scene. The item the man pointed at the officers appears to be a loaded revolver wrapped in a bandana which was located under the suspect's body as he was handcuffed. It is not known at this time if the man fired at the officers.

The suspect involved in this incident has been identified as 25 year-old Leonardo Hurtado Ibarra of San Diego. Mr. Ibarra succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased in the hospital at 10:20 p.m. on June 29, 2020.

The officers in this incident are Jonathon Lucas and Tevar Zaki. Both officers are assigned to Central Division and have been with the Department for approximately four years.

The investigation and review process for an officer-involved shooting is extremely thorough. When the Homicide Unit completes their investigation, it will be reviewed by the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to determine if the officers bear any criminal liability for their actions. The Internal Affairs Unit will conduct an investigation to determine if there were any policy violations, and the Shooting Review Board will evaluate the tactics used by the officers. The Community Review Board on Police Practices will conduct a review of the incident and provide any appropriate recommendations. The Federal Bureau of Investigations and the United States Attorney's Office will also be monitoring the 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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