The City of SAN DIEGO
Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, December 5, 2019

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Police Investigate Murder in City Heights

San Diego – Today at approximately 5:42 a.m., several witnesses called 9-1-1 to report a man and a woman arguing in front of a home on the 3800 block of 46th Street. At least three witnesses also reported seeing the man shoot the woman.

SDPD officers were dispatched and arrived on scene within minutes. When they arrived, they found a 29-year-old woman suffering from a gunshot wound to her chest. A 28-year-old man was standing nearby and was taken into custody. Officers also found and confiscated a gun. Despite providing life-saving aid, the victim died at the scene.

Detectives from the San Diego Police Homicide Unit were called to the scene. Although it is early in the investigation, this incident appears to be a tragic case of domestic violence.

The victim has been identified, but her name is being withheld until her family is notified. Our hearts go out to the victim's loved ones, especially to the two children the couple shared. The suspect has been identified as Fernando Avila. Avila has been booked into County Jail for murder.

Domestic violence can affect anyone. There are resources available for anyone who experiences, witnesses or hears about domestic abuse. We encourage everyone to seek assistance from the San Diego Family Justice Center (https://www.sandiego.gov/sandiegofamilyjusticecenter).

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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