

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Diego Police Announce Arrests of Two Suspects in Gaslamp District Homicide

On Friday December 29, 2017, at 1:33 a.m., the San Diego Police Department Communications Center received a 911 call reporting a fight and a person down on 500 Island Avenue. The first San Diego Police Officer to arrive found a man down on the sidewalk. The man appeared to have been stabbed in the upper torso. The officer and bystanders began to administer first aid. Paramedics and San Diego Fire and Rescue quickly arrived and continued medical care.

Despite the efforts of safety personnel and good Samaritans, the victim did not survive his injuries and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The decedent has been identified as 21 year old Ryan Evan Harris. Mr. Harris, a Northern California native, was a United States Marine stationed at Camp Pendleton.

While tending to the decedent, officers were notified by a citizen of a second victim at 500 J St. Responding officers found a male there who had also been stabbed. They quickly determined he was involved in the initial altercation. His wounds, although serious, are not life threatening. He remains in a local hospital for treatment.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene to investigate the incident.

On Saturday December 30, 2017 at approximately 11:00 p.m., two suspects were taken into custody for the murder of Mr. Harris and associated offenses. Those suspects have been identified as 30 year old Jose Oscar Esqueda of San Diego and 24 year old Jeff Shai Holliday of San Diego. Esqueda was booked in to County Jail for murder, attempted murder, and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon. Holliday was booked in to County Jail for murder, assault with a deadly weapon, battery, and probation violation.

Police are asking the good Samaritans who assisted officers with first aid on Mr. Harris to come forward. 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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