



## **Vacaville Police Department**

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

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## *Press Release*

**Today's Date:** 3/7/2011  
**Date & Time Occurred:** 3/6/2011 at 10:13 p.m.  
**Submitted By:** Lt. Randy Weaver  
**Phone:** (707) 449-5200  
**Case Number:** 11-01607  
**Type of Crime/Incident:** 187 PC, Murder  
**Location:** 300 Block of Berryessa Drive, Vacaville  
**Suspects:** Unknown

### **UPDATE 3/10/11**

#### **VACAVILLE POLICE BELIEVE TWO SHOOTINGS MAY BE GANG-RELATED**

Vacaville police believe the situation involving a victim of a shooting on Tuesday night may be related to a shooting that took the life of an 18-year-old on Sunday evening.

Police became aware of the Tuesday evening shooting after officials at an area hospital, as required by law, called to report that a victim of a gunshot wound was at the hospital emergency room.

The victim, Jose Rosales, a 20-year-old Vacaville resident, suffered a single gunshot wound to the head. His wound is not considered life threatening and he is expected to be released from the hospital soon.

Rosales, a Sureño gang associate, has had numerous contacts with the Vacaville police. The location of the shooting has not been confirmed, as Rosales has changed his story several times. He has also been unable or unwilling to identify the person who shot him.

Police believe his shooting may be related to the incident on Sunday evening on Berryessa Drive in which Joel Pena, 18, of Vacaville was shot and killed.

Detectives are investigating the possibility that the shooting on Tuesday was in retaliation for the homicide on Sunday. Detectives also believe that the crimes are gang related and involve members of rival street gangs.



Pena has been identified as a member of the Norteño criminal street gang and was on probation at the time of his death. Pena was also a victim of a shooting at Trower Park in April 2010. In the April 2010 incident, Pena was shot in the back with a small-caliber handgun. Pena's injuries in this crime were minor. Pena was never able or willing to identify the person who shot him in 2010.

Police are concerned about the potential for further violence and are taking whatever steps possible to investigate these cases. Citizens are warned to be cautious and aware of their surroundings. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the police, and residents are asked to report suspicious activity immediately.

Anyone with information about either of these shootings is urged to call the police at (707) 449-5200.

**UPDATE: VACAVILLE POLICE RELEASE IDENTITY OF HOMICIDE VICTIM**

Vacaville police have identified Gumercindo Joel Pena, 18, as the victim in the homicide that took place on Berryessa Drive on Sunday night.

Pena is a long-time resident of Vacaville. It does not appear that Pena has ties to the Berryessa Drive neighborhood where he was murdered and may have just been passing through on his way home when he was shot. A photograph of Pena has been attached to this press release.

The investigation is ongoing and several leads are being followed. Police are trying to contact additional witnesses. Several vehicles were seen leaving the area shortly after the gunshots were heard by residents. Investigators do not think that all of these vehicles were related to the crime but the occupants may have unknowingly witnessed something of importance.

Police are asking that anyone driving down Berryessa Drive on Sunday night shortly after 10 p.m. contact the police. Police believe these people may not realize that they drove past the scene of the murder, but investigators still need to speak with them. Contact the Vacaville Police at (707) 449-5200 or Detective Vince Nadasdy at (707) 449-5200 if you have any information about this crime or believe you were in the area at the time of the incident.

No suspect information is being released at this time, nor are any other details of the investigation being released. Updated information may be released in the future as the case develops.

**INITIAL RELEASE:**



## **VACAVILLE POLICE SEEK INFORMATION IN DEATH OF 19-YEAR-OLD**

Vacaville police are investigating a shooting that left a 19-year-old man dead late Sunday evening.

At approximately 10:13 p.m. the Vacaville Communication Center began receiving numerous calls of shots being fired in the 300 block of Berryessa Drive. Patrol units responded to the scene and found the 19-year-old male victim suffering from several gunshot wounds. The victim was treated at the scene by paramedics and transported by air ambulance to John Muir Hospital. The victim ultimately succumbed to his injuries. The name of the victim is not being released at this time.

Detectives from the Investigative Services Section were called out and took over the homicide investigation. It appears that an altercation involving several people occurred in the street just prior to the shooting.

Detectives are handling numerous leads and are asking anyone with any information to call the Vacaville Police Department at (707) 449-5200 or Detective Vince Nadasdy at (707) 449-5214.

