



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

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

Press Release

Today's Date: 8/31/11
Date & Time Occurred: 7/30/11 at 9:17 p.m.
Submitted By: Sgt. Jeff King
Phone: (707) 449-5200
Case Number: 11-05226
Type of Crime/Incident: 187 PC, Murder
Location: 1501 Alamo Drive Vacaville CA 95687
Suspects: S-Espitia, Rico Marquez, HMA (DOB-8/27/90) of Vacaville

UPDATED PRESS RELEASE 8/31/2011

Detectives from the Vacaville Police Department obtained an arrest warrant for S- Rico Marquez Espitia of Vacaville. S-Espitia is the primary suspect in the murder of Quinten Nears, who was shot on July 30, 2011. S-Espitia was arrested on August 29, 2011 at approximately 9:00 PM in Ocean Shores, Washington. S-Espitia was contacted by police concerning an unrelated issue and the arrest warrant was discovered. S-Espitia is being held without bail awaiting extradition back to Solano County.

Detectives from the Investigative Services Section, (ISS) traveled to Ocean Shores Washington on August 30, 2011. Detectives have interviewed several subjects in that community and served a search warrant with local police on August 31, 2011 at S-Espitia's apartment. Detectives from ISS and the Crime Suppression Team, (CST) also served a search warrant at S-Espitia's family home here in Vacaville.

Police believe that this case is gang related and S-Espitia is a known criminal street gang member with a long criminal history. The case is still being actively investigated and more information may be released in the future. A booking photo of S-Espitia has been attached to this updated press release.

The Vacaville Police wish to thank the many citizens of our community that came forward with information on this case. A successful investigation would not be possible without the help of our citizens. Anyone with information about this case is urged to contact police at (707) 449-5200 or Detective Chris Lechuga at (707) 449-5269.





Narrative:

On July 30, 2011 at approximately 9:17 p.m., the Vacaville Communication Center began receiving numerous calls of shots fired in the 1500 block of Alamo Drive. Patrol units responded to 1501 Alamo Drive and found a victim suffering from several gun shot wounds to his upper body. The shooting took place in the parking lot of the apartment complex. Police officers began providing emergency medical care and CPR on the victim. The Vacaville Fire Department arrived and continued life saving efforts for sometime but ultimately he was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Detectives from the Vacaville Police Departments Investigative Services Section (ISS) responded to the scene and took over the criminal investigation. The victim has been identified as Quinten Nears, 20 years of Vacaville. Mr. Nears next of kin were notified of the circumstances of his death by Vacaville detectives and a representative from the Solano County Corners Office. An autopsy is scheduled for Monday which may shed more light on the crime.

The suspect was described as a White or Hispanic male in his early 20's. He was approximately 5' 7" and had a medium build. The suspect was further described as having black hair and clean shaven. He was last seen fleeing the area on foot. Vacaville patrol units, K-9 officers, Solano County Deputy Sheriff's and an air unit from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office conducted an extensive search for the suspect but were unsuccessful in locating him.

Detectives are looking into the possibility that the crime was gang related. Investigators believe the weapon used was a handgun. This was the second homicide in Vacaville this year, but it is not believed the two cases are related.

Anyone who has information about this case is asked to contact the Vacaville Police Department. Please call our communication Center at (707) 449-5200 or Detective Chris Lechuga at (707) 449-5269.