



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Richard Pierce, Sheriff
News Release

January 6, 2003

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**FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DETECTIVES REQUEST
ASSISTANCE FROM PUBLIC ON HOMICIDE OF
TAXICAB DRIVER**

Sheriff Richard Pierce announced today that Fresno County Sheriff's Detectives are asking the community for assistance in a homicide of a "INDIO CAB CO" taxicab driver.

On Sunday, January 5, 2003, a taxicab driver, later identified as Rumualdo Arrole Estrada, 35 years of age, was dispatched to the area of Butler Ave. and Cedar Ave. to pick up a customer. Estrada arrived at approximately 1:55 a.m. The cab then arrived at an unknown location notifying his dispatch of the end fare at approximately 2:15 a.m. Indio Cab Co dispatch then attempted to contact Estrada via radio about 30 minutes later but were unsuccessful.

At approximately 3:15 a.m., a witness drove past Estrada's taxicab and noticed it on the side of the road located on Maple Ave. and North Ave. The witness later reported the observations as an anonymous caller. Fresno County Sheriff's Deputies responded to the area and found the victim sitting in his cab deceased. The cab is described as a 1991 green and white Ford Crown Victoria four door. The name of the Cab Company "INDIO CAB CO" is written on the side of the cab in large letters. The case is being investigated as a homicide.

Fresno County Sheriff's Detectives are trying to locate the initial reporting party who did not leave a name or anyone who may have seen any activity in the area of Butler Ave. and Cedar Ave. or North Ave. and Maple Ave. Anyone with information is asked to contact Fresno County Sheriff's Detectives John Ciaccio or Sergio Toscano at 488-3111 or Crime Stoppers at 498-STOP.

