



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

November 2, 2006

Lt. Jennifer Horton
Homicide
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**Fresno County Sheriff's Department Update to the Homicide
and Officer Involved Shooting**

The Fresno County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to a deceased persons call on November 2, 2006 at about 8:40 a.m. in the 3400 block of West University Avenue in Fresno County. The suspect of the murder was identified by the Coroner as Pasqual Mendoza III (27 years-old) who was the step-son to the male victim. The victim of the murder is identified by the Coroner as Bernardo Berrera Ybarra Jr. (58 years-old) and is the step-father to Pasqual. It is possible that drugs played a part in the murder as illegal drugs were located in the home and the step-son (suspect) was not acting normal according to family members.

The suspect, Pasqual Mendoza III was sprayed numerous times with Oleoresin Capsicum (commonly referred to by many as "Pepper Spray" or "OC") by Deputies. The Oleoresin Capsicum had little to no affect on him. When the suspect stopped running and confronted the deputies, the suspect made an aggressive move with the knife towards the deputies, which caused the deputies to shoot the suspect to stop the threat.

This is our fifth Officer Involved Shooting for the year. The two deceased parties in this event mark our 13th and 14th homicide of the year.

Anyone with information related this homicide is asked to call Detective Salinas at (559) 488-3262.