



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

November 26, 2006

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Homicide
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**Fresno County Sheriff's Department Investigates an Assault
and an Officer Involved Shooting**

The Fresno County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to a 9-1-1 call in the 400 block of West Railroad St. in Orange Cove at about 4:20 p.m. on November 26, 2006. The family and neighbors of Mario Quintanilla (44 years-old) said he was armed with a knife and they were having problems with him. Upon arrival Deputies saw Mario, the suspect, with two knives standing outside his home.

The suspect refused to drop the knives and advanced on the deputies in the front yard area. The suspect picked up rock(s) and brick(s) laying in the area and threw them toward the Deputies. The suspect also advanced and "stabbed" a headlight on a patrol car, cracking the lens. Deputies continued to order the suspect to stop and drop the knives, but he advanced on the deputies faster than they could retreat, forcing one of them to shoot him. Mario was shot one time and was transported to UMC where his wounds are not considered life-threatening. The Deputies were not hurt.

Mario Quintanilla is in-custody and charged with three counts of assault with a deadly weapon on an officer. The Deputies will be placed on routine leave. Anyone with information related this homicide is asked to call Detective Eaton at (559) 488-3922.