



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Margaret Mims, Sheriff
News Release

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**Fresno County Sheriff's Department Makes Arrests
Regarding Stabbing Death on December 20th 2006 in the
City Of Sanger**

On Wednesday December 20th 2006, a fight was reported to the Sanger Police Department in the 400 block of J Street in the City of Sanger. Several Sanger Police Officers were dispatched to the scene. A short time later they discovered the victim had been transported from the primary scene to a parking lot at Academy and Church Avenues in the City of Sanger. Sanger Officers found a 16 year-old male resident of Sanger suffering from a stab wound. The victim was transported to University Medical Center. On December 24th 2006 the victim, Pablo Loya, succumbed to his injuries. The Sanger Police Department requested the Fresno County Sheriff's Department Homicide Unit assist with the investigation.

Today, the Fresno Sheriff's Department Homicide Unit made three arrests in this case with assistance from the Sanger Police Department. Two juveniles and one adult were booked for murder. The juvenile suspects' names and information cannot be released due to their ages. They were both booked into the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Center. The adult suspect has been identified as David Freddy Mercado (19 years-old) of Sanger. David Mercado was booked into the Fresno County Jail.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Richard Gallegos at (559)488-3921 or CRIME STOPPERS at (559)498-STOP (7867).