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NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar
Chief of Police

Contact: Francisco Magos
Officer / Public Information Office
520-791-4852
On-call PIO: tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov

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HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION 755 EAST BENSON HIGHWAY

*****UPDATE – JUNE 4, 2022*****

Detectives have identified the victim as 44-year-old **Jesse Van Hernandez**. As the investigation continued, detectives identified the suspect as 32-year-old **Damien Esquire Hall**. Officers from ODS/CRT located Hall at a near-by motel in the 300 block of E. Benson Highway. ODS/CRT and officers from Tucson SWAT took Damien Hall into custody without incident.

At the conclusion of interviews, detectives charged Damien Hall with 2nd Degree Murder. He was ultimately transported and booked into the Pima County Jail where he is being held on a \$1,002,000 bond.

Officer Francisco Magos June 4, 2022

On May 31, 2022, just after 4:00 p.m., officers from Operations Division South were dispatched to a report of an unresponsive male outside of a motel room, located at 755 E. Benson Highway. Upon arrival, officers located the male and several bystanders who were attempting to render aid to him. Officers continued lifesaving efforts, but the male died at the scene. Officers have identified the victim; however, his identity is being withheld pending next of kin notification. It was later discovered that the victim sustained gunshot trauma. Additional responding officers searched the immediate area for the suspect. The TPD Air Unit and K9 Units also responded to assist in the search; however, the suspect was not located.

Detectives from the Homicide Unit were notified and responded to continue the investigation. Additionally, officers from Operations Division South/Community Response Team (ODS/CRT) responded to assist. According to interviews and evidence recovered at the scene, detectives believe the victim was involved in a dispute with an individual prior to being shot. After the shooting, the suspect – a male in his 30s – was seen running south from the motel. Detectives are continuing to follow up on leads as ODS/CRT is actively searching for the suspect. Anyone with information is asked to call 88-CRIME. You can remain anonymous. Additional details will be released as they become available.

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Page 1 of 1

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