

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHERIFF'S DETECTIVES INVESTIGATING HOMICIDE

TIME:

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Modesto, **CA** – Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department investigators are conducting an attempted homicide investigation after first finding a 35-year-old Las Vegas man seriously injured from multiple stab wounds over the holiday weekend.

Modesto Police officers initially responded to the 1100 block of Kansas Avenue to reports of an assault with a deadly weapon on Friday night. The call was first received at approximately 2:43 a.m., and deputies and emergency medical technicians soon responded once it was determined the crime took place in an unincorporated portion of the county. Paramedics rushed the man to a local area hospital, where he was treated for injuries, underwent surgery and is still in critical but stable condition. Detectives within the Robbery and Homicide Unit of the Sheriff's Department responded in order to take the lead and further the investigation.

The incident was believed to have started at the El Paradiso Bar, which is located near the intersection of Glenn and Crows Landing Road in South Modesto. Two men met with two women outside of the bar and agreed to leave with them once the bar closed for the evening. They drove to a warehouse on Kansas Avenue, where two unknown men confronted them. One was armed with a baseball bat, and the other was armed with a knife. Robbery was believed to be the original motive; although, nothing was reportedly taken from either victim. The victims defended themselves, tried to get away and awaited the arrival of emergency first responders. They were found some 500-feet away from where they were assaulted.

The stabbing victim was identified as Las Vegas resident Juan Carlos Felix. Detectives continue to actively follow leads and are identifying and interviewing all possible witnesses. Felix was with a friend, whom has been identified as 20-year-old Salinas resident, Rojelio Escobar. An unknown assailant struck Escobar with a baseball bat. His injuries were not deemed to be serious, as he was not transported to the hospital and was able to provide authorities with a statement.

The suspects were described as follows:

Suspect #1- White female adult, 24-27-years-old, blonde hair, 5' 6" in height, weighing 130-140 pounds.

Suspect #2- White female adult, 33-34-years-old, long blonde hair, 5'6" in height, weighing 220 pounds.

Suspect #3- Hispanic male adult, 35-36-years-old, black beard and moustache, 5'4"-5'5" in height, and weighing 160 pounds.

Suspect #4- Hispanic male adult, 22-years-old, weighing 220-pounds. All physical descriptions should be considered approximations.

No arrests have been made, and no suspects have been positively identified at the writing of this press release. Anyone with information to help further this investigation, or whom may have been previously victimized by any of the described suspects, are urged to contact Det. Jon McQueary. He can be reached at 525-7099. Those that wish to remain anonymous may call Stanislaus County Area Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-866-602-7463 or locally at 209-521-4636.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Luke Schwartz (209) 652-0211 (<u>tschwartz@stanislaussheriff.com</u>).