



Ready to Protect,
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

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HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION 5505 SOUTH MISSION ROAD

The Tucson Police Department is actively investigating a fatal shooting that occurred yesterday evening on Tucson's South Side.

On April 15, 2019, at approximately 10:40 p.m., officers from Operations Division South were dispatched to an unrelated call at the Mission Tierra Apartments (5505 S. Mission Road). Upon arrival, officers were flagged down about a shooting that had just taken place on the property. As they entered the complex, they located a man with obvious signs of gunshot trauma. The man was able to give his name to officers and then collapsed in front of them. Officers immediately began rendering aid utilizing their Individual First Aid Kits (IFAK) until Tucson Fire was able to take over medical treatment. Shortly after their arrival, the man succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. He was identified as **32-year-old Rene Orantez Jr.** Next of kin has been notified. Officers on scene learned that Orantez had gang affiliations, so detectives with the Tucson Police Gang Unit were called to continue the investigation.

Based on information obtained from the initial investigation, detectives were able to determine that Orantez did not live at the complex and was there with an accomplice to commit a residential robbery. Orantez and his accomplice went to a specific apartment armed with handguns. After knocking on the door, they forced their way in and held the residents at gunpoint while taking items from the home. While inside of the apartment, a physical altercation ensued between the suspects and victims. The altercation continued outside of the apartment, where at least one shot was fired, striking Orantez. Orantez and his accomplice then fled on foot. Orantez was located by responding officers when he eventually collapsed in front of them. His accomplice was not located. Orantez had items in his possession that belonged to the victims.

The incident appears to be narcotic related and not a random residential robbery. Although Orantez had gang affiliations, there is no indication that the incident was gang related. At this time, no arrests have been made. Additional details will be released as the investigation continues. Detectives are currently following up on leads in the case and are asking anyone with information to please call 88-CRIME. You can remain anonymous.

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