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NEWS RELEASE

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HOMICIDE 257 WEST ALTURAS

At approximately 8:00 p.m. on December 23, 2011, the Tucson Police Department received a 911 call about a shooting incident that occurred at 257 West Alturas. Officers from Operations Division West responded to the residence to investigate the shooting. Upon arrival, they found an adult male suffering from gunshot trauma. Emergency medical personnel from the Tucson Fire Department responded to the scene, and transported the male to a local hospital for additional emergency medical treatment. The male, later identified as Khanh Tuan Ho (46-year old Asian male), ultimately succumbed to injuries received during the course of the shooting. He was pronounced deceased on the afternoon of December 24, 2011. Next of kin have been notified.

Detectives with the Aggravated Assault Unit responded to the scene to further the investigation. They learned that there had been a friendly gathering at the residence located at 257 West Alturas earlier in the evening. At some point, an altercation ensued between the shooting victim and the suspect, later identified as Kiet Van Phoung (46-year old Asian male). Kiet Van Phoung left the residence after the altercation. However, he returned a short while later and was armed with a handgun. Kiet Van Phoung fired his weapon, striking Khanh Tuan Ho. Additionally, he pointed the handgun directly at an adult male witness that was also in the room when the shooting occurred. The incident was immediately reported to police, who arrived within minutes. Kiet Van Phoung was arrested at the scene.

Initially, Khanh Tuan Ho did not die as a result of his injuries. As such, Kiet Van Phoung was booked into the Pima County Jail and charged with one count of Attempted Murder and one count of Aggravated Assault. However, after Khanh Tuan Ho was pronounced deceased on the afternoon of December 24, 2011, the Attempted Murder charge was modified to a single count of First Degree Murder. A booking photograph is not immediately available and will be released once it is.

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