

## CHULA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

315 Fourth Avenue, MS P-200 Chula Vista, California 91910-3801

## POLICE MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 To: San Diego Media

From: Chula Vista Police Department

Contact: Sergeant Anthony Molina, Public Information Officer

Phone: (619) 691-5111

Email: pio@chulavistapd.org

Subject: HOMICIDE - SUSPICIOUS MISSING PERSON INVESTIGATION RESULTS IN

SUSPECT ARRESTED FOR MURDER.

Message: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Chula Vista Police Department was contacted by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department regarding a suspicious missing persons investigation. Jesse Valdez (Age 40) of Imperial Beach, Ca. was reported missing to the Sheriff's Department by his family on April 7<sup>th</sup> after he had not returned home or contacted his family for several days. During their investigation the Sheriff's Department learned foul play might have been involved in Valdez's disappearance and that he had possibly been murdered at a Chula Vista hotel. They contacted the Chula Vista Police Department who immediately assigned detectives.

Based on information and evidence gathered during the initial stages of the Chula Vista Police investigation, authorities learned Valdez was murdered at the Red Roof Inn Hotel located at 394 Broadway in Chula Vista and the suspects removed his body from the hotel. The suspect, who was known to the victim, has been identified as 34-year-old Jorge Rodriguez of Chula Vista. Rodriguez was in custody at the San Diego County Jail for an unrelated charge when he was identified as the suspect in the murder investigation. On the evening of April 20<sup>th</sup>, he was rebooked on the charge of murder. A second suspect identified as 36-year-old Ally Mistone, has also been arrested.

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> a body was discovered in a rural area of Jamul. Today, the Medical Examiners Officers identified the body found as homicide victim Valdez. His family has been notified. Investigators are still actively seeking witnesses and gathering evidence in this case. Anyone with information is asked to contact San Diego County Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 or submit a tip via P3tips (online or mobile application) <a href="http://p3tips.com/409">http://p3tips.com/409</a> if they wish to remain anonymous. They can utilize this method to alert detectives if they have video or any kind of evidence to provide.

\*Weekend and after-hour inquiries should be directed to the Watch Commander at (619)476-5374, however no other information is available for release at the time of this media advisory distribution.

Prepared By: Sergeant Anthony Molina Approved By: Assistant Chief Phil Collum Copies Sent To: San Diego Media Date/Time: 04-24-2023 / 1230