

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
PRESS RELEASE

March 24, 2008
Immediate Release

San Fernando PD Contact:
Lt. Jeff Eley
(818) 898-1256

SAN FERNANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On Saturday, March 22, 2008, at 12:41 p.m., San Fernando Police Department (SFPD) dispatch received a telephone call from Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) dispatch regarding a 17 year old male subject that wanted to kill himself and was walking in the area of Huntington and Hollister Streets, near Las Palmas Park. The LAPD Dispatcher advised SFPD that the call was possibly coming from a cell phone and that the call had been disconnected.

The SFPD Dispatcher immediately called the cell number that LAPD provided and spoke to a male, in an attempt to check on his welfare and determine his location, and the male subject stated, "I don't like cops." The SFPD Dispatcher kept the suicidal caller on the line in and attempted to locate his exact whereabouts which would allow officers to respond to the area. The suicidal subject then told the Dispatcher that he was in the 1600 block of Pico Street.

Two uniformed Patrol Officers arrived in the area and observed the subject standing in front of a residence. As responding Officers approached, they observed the subject holding a handgun in a threatening manner. The subject then charged one of the Officers while pointing the handgun directly at him. The second Officer ordered the subject to drop his handgun three times, in which he did not comply. Fearing for the life of his fellow Officer who was being assaulted, the second Officer fired his service weapon twice striking the male subject in both arms, forcing him to drop the handgun.

Immediately, the Officers rendered emergency medical care and summoned Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD). Paramedics from the LAFD responded to the scene and transported the subject to a local hospital where he is being treated for his injuries. While being treated at the hospital, the subject apologized for forcing the Officer shoot him in his failed suicide attempt.

Investigators from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Officer Involved Shooting Team, and San Fernando Police Department Detectives responded to the scene and are currently conducting an investigation. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the handgun that the subject had pointed at the Officers was an exact replica of a blue steel revolver.

The Officer involved in the shooting is a three and one half year member of the San Fernando Police Department, is a combat veteran of the Iraq war, and served with the United States Army's Fourth Infantry Division out of Fort Carson, Colorado.

For further information, please contact Lieutenant Jeff Eley at the San Fernando Police Department, at (818) 898-1253.