



CITY OF  
*San Fernando*  
Historic & Visionary

## POLICE NEWS RELEASE

Issue Date: May 6, 2009  
Contact: Lt. Robert Jacobs, (818) 898-1267

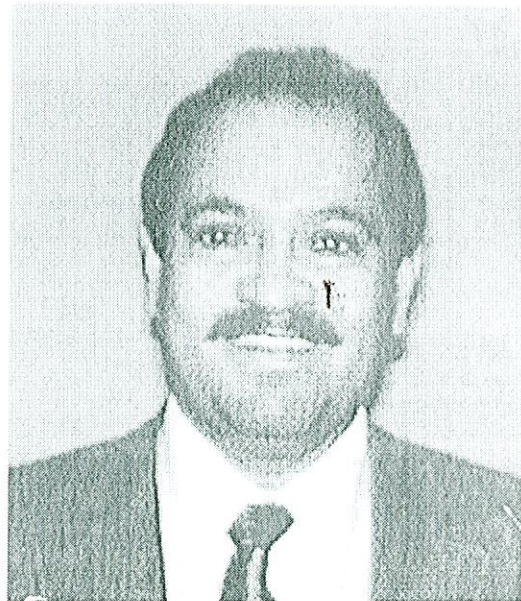
### **San Fernando Police Capture Alleged Funeral Scam Artist** *Suspect Fraudulently Sold Cemetery Plots and Casket Contracts to Local Residents*

Following an extensive 10-month investigation and manhunt, the San Fernando Police Department (SFPD) located and arrested **Nelson Olidio Lopez** for multiple counts of grand theft.

Lopez, a 44 year-old El Salvadorian national, was captured Monday night at a card club. He had multiple outstanding arrest warrants from SFPD and other law enforcement agencies for allegedly and fraudulently selling cemetery plots and casket contracts to local residents.

According to SFPD Chief Robert Ordelheide, Lopez allegedly worked his scam by moving place to place and selling plots and contracts valued upwards to thousands of dollars. "Lopez was then long gone before victims realized they were duped," said Ordelheide.

"Unfortunately, many victims did not or will not discover the crime until a death causes them to redeem a worthless funeral contract."



***Nelson Olidio Lopez***

Lopez, who has no prior arrests, has admitted involvement in the alleged scam and is cooperating with law enforcement agencies. He is currently being held pending arraignment, and was placed on a no-bail immigration hold.

Those believed to be victims in this case are urged to call their local law enforcement agency.

- end -

