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POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

January 2, 2008

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MAN CHARGED WITH ASSAULT IN DEATH OF SECURITY OFFICER

Date/Time: 01/01/2008 @ 5:35 p.m.
Location: 1000 S. Santa Fe (Paso Del Norte Bridge pedestrian crossing)
Victim: 58-year old Cruz Vite of the 10800 block of Jack Fleck
Arrested: 29-year old Pablo Aragon of the 1200 block of Myrtle

EL PASO, TEXAS – A man is charged with assault in the death of security officer. Detectives from the Crime Against Persons Unit (CAP) responded to the Paso Del Norte Bridge to assist Central Patrol with a possible murder. The preliminary investigation revealed 58-year old Cruz Vite was working at the bridge as a security officer protecting the toll both for pedestrians crossing southbound. 29-year old Pablo Aragon attempted to enter the toll both when a confrontation occurred between he and Vite. Aragon struck Vite with closed fists a few times before fleeing the area running northbound where he was later detained by a U.S. Border Patrol Agent. An ambulance took Vite to Thomason Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Given the information available to investigators at this time Aragon was arrested and booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility on one count of Felony Assault. Investigators learned Vite had a preexisting medical condition and until the cause of death is determined through an autopsy, the case is being treated as an assault. Aragon's charge could change depending on the Medical Examiner's determination. The investigation continues. ARAGON'S MUG SHOT IS NOT BEING RELEASED AT THIS TIME.

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