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November 10, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

Police Investigate a Double Murder

Date & Time: Thursday, November 9, 2017 @ 3:46 a.m.
Location: 14500 block of Ava Leigh & 4600 block of Rich Beem
Victim 1: 45-year old Enrique Herrera of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**
Victim 2: 25-year old Stephanie Herrera of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**
Offender: 25-year old Jose Manuel VARELA of El Paso, TX **(DECEASED)**

EL PASO, TEXAS: Officers assigned to the El Paso Police Department' Pebble Hills Regional Command Center responded to a 911 call of shots fired at a residence in the 14500 block of Ava Leigh early Thursday. Pebble Hills officers arrived and found Victim 1 & Victim 2 at the scene without signs of life and both had sustained fatal gunshot wounds. Moments later officers located a red Dodge truck being driven by 25-year old Jose Manuel VARELA traveling at a high rate of speed on Rich Beem, when the truck collided into a rock wall. Crimes Against Persons investigators were called to assist with this investigation. The investigation revealed that VARELA had confronted Victim 2 in the evening of Wednesday, 11-08-17 at a local establishment. At 3:46 a.m., VARELA driving a red Dodge truck approached the residence of Victim 1 & Victim 2. Victim 1 approached the front door when he was shot and killed by VARELA. VARELA inside the residence then fired a round at Victim 2 hitting her. Victim 2 was being tended to and cared for by two others in the home when VARELA confronted all three in the driveway of the residence and fired another round at Victim 2, hitting her. She died as a result of being shot the second time. Investigators confirmed that VARELA then fled the scene after shooting and killing Victim 1 & 2 in the red truck and is the same truck responding units saw him collide with a rock wall on Rich Beem. Further investigation has revealed that VARELA sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head prior to hitting the rock wall. VARELA died at the scene. Investigators did recover a handgun inside the red Dodge truck. This is the 17th & 18th Murders of 2017. VARELA and Victim 2 did know each other. This investigation continues.

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