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NEWS RELEASE

Neighbor Dispute Escalates To Murder

10/18/2023

Time: 08:25 am **Date:** 10-13-2023

Location: 7600 block of Parral

Victim#1: 62-year-old James Burton from the 7600 block of Parral (Deceased)

Victim#2: 54-year-old Joseph Carter from the 7600 block of Parral Victim#3: 65-year-old Ernesto Sanchez from the 7600 block of Parral

Arrested: 68-year-old Mario Velazquez Lechuga of the 7600 block of Parral

Charge: Murder Judge: R. Nunez Bond: \$500,000.00

El Paso, Texas—On October 13, 2023, police responded to a shooting at the 7600 block of Parral. When officers arrived in the area, they located two individuals with gunshot wounds. Police were able to apprehend the shooter at the scene. The Crimes Against Persons unit was called to handle the investigation. The Initial investigation revealed Burton and Velazquez had a history of having neighbor disputes. On this particular day, Velazquez exited his residence, walked towards Carter and Burton, and began to shoot at them. Velazquez also shot toward Sanchez, who was not hit by any gunfire. Burton and Carter were transported to a local hospital for treatment. At the hospital, Burton died from his injuries. Carter was admitted to the hospital.

Velazguez was booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility for the charge of murder. The investigation continues.

