



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

12501 South Hawthorne Boulevard, Hawthorne, California, 90250

PRESS RELEASE

Issued: April 1, 2015

HPD DR #15-4097

Suitable For Public Dissemination

Suspect shoots and kills a mother, gravely wounds her son, all in front of Hawthorne Police Officer

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide detectives are assisting Hawthorne Police Department with an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the shooting death of a female adult, which led to an officer-involved-shooting in the 14200 block of Kornblum Avenue, in the City of Hawthorne.

Detectives have learned that a Hawthorne police officer was parked southbound on Kornblum Avenue, in his marked patrol vehicle, monitoring traffic when the victim pulled her vehicle adjacent to his and told him that another vehicle had been following her. The officer told her to pull her vehicle in front of his and pull over so that he could assist her. At that moment, another vehicle pulled adjacent to her. A male adult exited that vehicle with a firearm and began firing at the female and her passenger, a male juvenile. The Hawthorne police officer exited his patrol vehicle and fired his weapon at the suspect. The suspect was struck by gunfire and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The female was struck by the suspect's gunfire and pronounced dead at the scene. The male juvenile was also struck by the suspect's gunfire but was able to get out of the vehicle and away from the scene. He was transported to a local hospital and is listed in stable condition. The involved officer was not injured in this incident.

The driver and rear passenger of the suspect vehicle, both male adults have been detained at the Hawthorne Police Department and are being interviewed. It is unknown if there was any relationship between the victims and the suspect.

Contact: **Lieutenant A. Yoshida**
Detective Bureau Commander / Public Information Officer
(310) 349-2820 Detective Bureau

The intensive, independent investigation is currently underway by members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and the Hawthorne Police Department. Investigators are working diligently to bring some semblance of understanding and motive to this horrific attack.

The members of the Hawthorne Police Department extend their prayers and wishes to the young boy struggling to survive this horrific assault.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau at (323) 890-5500 or the Hawthorne Police Department at (310) 349-2700. If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), or texting the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

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