



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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Suitable For Public Dissemination

Attempted Murder

On Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at about 1800 hours, Hawthorne Police officers were dispatched to the 14100 block of Cordary Avenue, on a report of gunshots heard in the area. Responding officers were able to determine that at least one person had been shot. An associate of the victim had left the scene of the shooting, attempting to drive the victim to an unknown hospital, prior to the arrival of officers.

Within ten minutes of the initial call, Hawthorne Police received reports of an injury traffic accident at the intersection of Rosecrans and Hawthorne Blvd. This intersection is the border for the cities of Hawthorne and Lawndale, so deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department also responded to the scene. Upon arrival, L.A. County Sheriff's deputies and Hawthorne Police officers discovered that the gunshot victim from Cordary was a passenger in one of two cars in the accident. Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedics were called to the scene and provided medical treatment for the gunshot victim, as well as the driver of the second car involved.

The gunshot victim (a 27 year old male resident of Hawthorne), was transported to Harbor UCLA Medical Center, where his condition was listed as serious. The victim's associate, who was driving the victim to the hospital when the accident occurred, was not injured. The driver of the second car in the accident, was transported to Kaiser Hospital in Harbor City, for treatment of minor injuries sustained in the accident.

Preliminary investigation indicates that the victim was seated in his car, which was parked in the 14100 block of Cordary. A group of five to six male Blacks, all about 20 years old, approached the car the victim was seated in. An argument between the victim and the five to six male Blacks began, which ended when one member of the group produced a handgun and fired into the parked car, hitting the victim. The suspects were last seen fleeing the scene of the shooting on foot, west on Rosecrans from Cordary.

The shooting suspect was described as a male Black, 18 to 20 years old, wearing prescription eyeglasses, 5'10" tall, thin build, dark complexion, wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans, armed with an unknown caliber handgun.

The other four to five suspects, who were with the gunman, were described as male Blacks, 18 to 20 years old, no further details.

The shooting investigation is being handled by the Hawthorne Police Department.

The accident investigation is being handled by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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