



**SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT**

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**DATE/TIME:** June 16, 2014

**LOCATION:** 238 Center Street

**TOPIC:** Shooting Death Investigation

**CASE NUMBER:** 14S-04798

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**INFORMATION:**

On June 16, 2014 at approx. 6:45 PM, Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to reports of a victim suffering from a gunshot wound in an apartment at 238 Center Street. The initial 9-1-1 call came from a neighboring apartment in the complex.

Arriving officers found a 15 year old male deceased in a bedroom inside the apartment. The victim suffered from an apparent single gunshot wound. The deceased is a resident of Watsonville and was visiting at the apartment. There were several people inside the apartment at the time of this incident.

The occupants of the apartment were brought to the police department for questioning as detectives worked to determine the role of each person. At the time of this writing, the occupants are still being interviewed. Emergency shelter arrangements were made through the Santa Cruz County Chapter of the Red Cross for displaced residents of the apartment.

Officers secured the scene as well as the surrounding neighborhood. Outside the home, officers located a firearm believed to be the weapon used in this shooting. The recovered handgun was reported as stolen to the Santa Cruz Police Department in May 2014. The handgun was taken during an auto burglary from a vehicle parked in the driveway of a home. At this time, it is not yet known how the handgun came to be at this apartment.

At the time of this writing, detectives are processing the crime scene and completing interviews. The case is being investigated as a homicide; however, detectives have not fully determined the circumstances of the shooting. Updated information may be available tomorrow.

**Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Santa Cruz Police Department Investigations Unit (831) 420-5820. Tips can also be left through the means listed below.**

**For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark**

**Phone: (831) 420-5815**

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Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; [www.santacruzpolice.com](http://www.santacruzpolice.com). Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.