



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Homicide Detail

Media Information

SUBJECT: Death Investigation

LOCATION: 1043 Ocean Boulevard
Coronado, Ca.

DATE/TIME: 07-14-11, 10:30 A.M.

VICTIM: Female Adult

SUSPECT: Unknown

The following information is fragmentary and has not been completely verified. It is based, in part, on hearsay and is intended for early information use rather than being a formal investigative report.

This is an update on the death investigation that began on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 at 1043 Ocean Boulevard in the City of Coronado. The victim has been identified as 32 year old Rebecca Nalepa (also known as Rebecca Zahau). Nalepa was staying at the residence with her boyfriend identified as Dr. Jonah Shacknai. On July 13, 2011 The Coronado Police were investigating a suspicious death at 1043 Ocean Boulevard in the City of Coronado. At approximately 0648 hours, Units from the Coronado Police Department went to 1043 Ocean Boulevard in response to a 911 call. The reporting party, later identified as Adam Shacknai told responding Officers he found Nalepa with a rope around her neck and hanging from a balcony off the main house. When the Coronado Units arrived at the scene, they located a female adult on the property who appeared to be deceased. The victim's hands and feet were bound and she was completely nude. The responding Officers provided medical aid until the Coronado Fire Department arrived on scene a few moments later and determined the victim to be deceased. The condition of the victim and the scene showed suspicious circumstances that initiated the response from Coronado Police Department Investigators and in turn, the Sheriff's Homicide Detail along with Investigators from the California Department of Justice and the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office. The Sheriff's Department is conducting this investigation in partnership with the Coronado Police Department. An autopsy is being conducted this morning by the San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office. The Sheriff's Crime Lab is processing numerous items of evidence and Investigators are questioning several witnesses as well as following other leads. Because of the unique and bizarre circumstances of this incident, it has yet to be determined if this will become a criminal matter or a death investigation.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department has a longstanding working relationship with the Coronado Police Department and responding to assist with such an incident is within normal course.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Homicide Detail at (858) 974-2321/after hours at (858) 565-5200 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-TIPS(8477).

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