



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, May 20, 2024

CONTACT: Ashley Nicholes at <u>anicholes@pd.sandiego.gov</u>

## San Diego Police Investigating String of Incidents as Possible Hate Crime

**San Diego –** The San Diego Police Department (SDPD) is investigating a string of incidents that occurred early Saturday morning as a possible hate crime.

Just before 1 a.m. on Saturday, the San Diego Police Department received reports about a pellet gun being fired out of a vehicle at a business on University Ave. The vehicle is described as a newer, black sedan.

Upon further investigation by SDPD's Western Division, they discovered four other shootings involving gel pellets that are believed to be related, including:

- A man was hit by the gel pellets while walking with his wife in Old Town. No injuries were sustained. This incident is not believed to be hate-motivated.
- A security guard was hit on the arm at The Rail located on Fifth Ave. No injuries were sustained.
- The vehicle also fired upon the bar, Number One Fifth Ave. No injuries were sustained.
- Three people were hit, including one employee being hit in the eye, requiring minor surgery at Rich's Nightclub on University Ave.
- The vehicle also fired upon Pecs Bar, located on University Ave., but no injuries were sustained.

Following the incident, SDPD's Western Division added additional patrol to the Hillcrest area and will continue those for the coming days. This investigation is ongoing and anyone with information is asked to call SDPD's non-emergency line at 619-531-2000.