

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, October 17, 2024

CONTACT: Lieutenant Lou Maggi at (619) 531-2275 or lmaggi@pd.sandiego.gov

Arrest Made in East Village Homicide of Navy Sailor

San Diego – Ta’Kari Terell Beness has been arrested in Minnesota for the shooting death of Albert Soto in the East Village.

On August 31, 2024, at about 12:49 a.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received reports of multiple gunshots in the area of 9th Street and F Street. An officer working in the area also heard the shots and responded to the intersection. Once there, the officer located a man on the ground suffering from at least one gunshot wound. CPR was administered at the scene and the man was transported to a local hospital, but unfortunately, he did not survive. The victim has been identified as Albert Soto of Queens, New York. Soto was a sailor in the U.S. Navy stationed in San Diego and was described as an 18-year-old Black male.

San Diego Police Homicide Detectives were called to the scene to investigate. Investigators determined the victim and his friends had been involved in an altercation with a group of men inside a local nightclub. Both groups left the club via separate exits, but the arguing continued outside the club and intermittently for the next 30 minutes, until shots rang out at the intersection of 9th Street and F Street. The suspect group consisted of four Black males that were last seen running eastbound on F Street.

Homicide investigators have since identified each of these men through a combination of public and private security footage, license plate readers, witness interviews, and tireless investigative work. The suspected shooter in the case has been identified as Ta’Kari Terell Beness. He is described as a 20-year-old Black male.

On October 16th, at 10:30 a.m., Beness was located and arrested for the murder by the Saint Cloud Police Department at the intersection of 10th Ave N and 2nd Street N in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The San Diego Police Department would like to thank NCIS for their help with facilitating witness interviews and the Saint Cloud Police Department, Community Response Team, Central Minnesota Violent Offender Task Force, and the Saint Cloud SWAT Team for their help in safely taking Bennes into custody and assisting with investigative follow-up in their city.

Anyone with information regarding this shooting is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

###