

## ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Public Affairs Director Carrie Braun CBraun@ocsd.org | C: 714-904-7042

## OC Sheriffs investigate shooting in Laguna Hills

LAGUNA HILLS, Ca. (April 8, 2021): Today, a shooting in the city of Laguna Hills left one victim with a non-life threatening gunshot wound and three juvenile suspects arrested.

Orange County Sheriff's dispatch received a call at 12:23 p.m. of a possible gunshot victim near Dinosaur Park at the 25000 block of Alicia Parkway. Deputies responded to the park and located one victim with a gunshot wound, a male Hispanic in his 40s. The victim was provided immediate medical assistance and transported to a local hospital by the Orange County Fire Authority.

Additional responding deputies located three subjects attempting to flee the area. After a short foot pursuit, deputies detained the male juvenile subjects. The juveniles are believed to be involved in the incident, and will be booked into juvenile hall. Their identities will not be released at this time.

During the investigation, it was determined that the shooting occurred in the Via Lomas neighborhood near the park. The victim then left the area on foot and walked to the park, where concerned citizens called Sheriff's dispatch. Deputies located the original incident scene in the nearby neighborhood and it was secured and processed for evidence by the Orange County Crime Lab.

Based on initial witness statements, it was originally believed there was a fourth outstanding suspect. Patrol deputies, Investigators, K9 unit, Air Support, SWAT and Reserve deputies conducted a thorough search of the area. It is believed that all suspects are in custody at this time.

A vehicle believed to be involved was located at the park and searched. No weapon was located in the vehicle, and the vehicle will be processed by the Orange County Crime Lab.

This incident may be gang-related, and the Orange County Sheriff's Department's Gang Enforcement Team is leading the investigation. The investigation is ongoing.

If you have information to assist the investigation, call Sheriff's Dispatch at 714-647-7000 or anonymous tips can be submitted to Orange County Crime Stoppers at 1-855-TIP-OCCS (1-855-847-6227) or online at <u>occrimestoppers.org</u>.

We appreciate the patience from the community with the large incident scene and ongoing investigation.

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