



County of Santa Cruz

Sheriff-Coroner

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Phil Wowak
Sheriff-Coroner

PRESS RELEASE

March 14, 2013

This is a follow-up press release containing additional information.

Incident type: Homicide
Location: Summit Area of Santa Cruz Mountains
Date: September 19 to October 13, 2012
Victim: Eric Garcia
Photo available: Yes

On October 13, 2012, a hiker found a decomposed body in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The victim was identified as 32-year old San Jose resident Eric Garcia. An autopsy ruled the case a homicide and investigators now believe it likely Garcia was murdered at a different location. Information related to the cause of death, location of the crime, or possible weapons will not be released at this time as it could impede the investigation.

Garcia was reported as a missing person to the San Jose Police Department during September 2012. His motorcycle was also missing. He was a member of the Mongols Motorcycle Club.

Investigation has determined that Garcia was last seen alive at the Park Lane Lounge, 5152 Moorpark Ave, San Jose, on September 19 at 2:00 a.m. in the company of persons associated with the Ghost Mountain Riders Motorcycle Club. Sheriff's detectives believe that Park Lane Lounge customers may have witnessed interactions between the Garcia and others and can provide important information relevant to the investigation.

Garcia, who was also known as "Peeka," was a Hispanic male, 5'-9" tall, approximately 350 lbs. He had tattoos on both forearms and upper chest. Garcia was believed to be wearing blue jeans, a white shirt and a black leather jacket without any markings.

No arrests have been made in this case. The attached photo of the Ghost Mountain Riders Motorcycle Club logo is included to refresh the memory of possible witnesses. Sheriff's detectives are actively investigating this homicide and request that anyone with information contact the Sheriff's Office:

Phone (831) 454-2311
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Anonymous Tip Line: (831) 454-2847



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