



## NEWS RELEASE

*Contact: (805) 339-4343*  
*Release Prepared by: Commander Rick Murray*  
**VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Incident:** Stabbing-Homicide **UPDATE SUSPECT IDENTIFIED**

**Location:** 200 Block of East McFarlane Dr

**Date/Time Occurred:** 4/16/23 0100 hours

**Officer(s) Involved:** VPD Patrol, Major Crimes

**Suspect(s):**

**Report #:** 23-22950

**Narrative:**

**Update:**

*The Ventura Police Department has concluded a three-month investigation into the stabbing death of Jose Contreras. The suspect has been identified as Dillon Mansell (6/4/92) of Ventura. He is currently in federal custody for a violation of federal probation. He now has a warrant for his arrest and will be returned to Ventura to face charges of murder and commission of a crime as a gang member.*

*Mansell has prior convictions for assault with a deadly weapon, gang involvement, assault on a police officer, drug charges and weapons violations.*

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On 4/16/23 at about 0100 hours the Ventura Police Command Center received a call of a stabbing that just occurred in the 200 block of East McFarlane Dr. Responding officers located one male adult suffering from a stab wound to his upper extremities. The victim, Jose Contreras 31 years of Ventura, was transported to the Ventura County Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries.

The Ventura Police Department Major Crimes Detectives are currently investigating this incident. The ensuing investigation revealed that the suspect and victim knew each other and were at a gathering at a residence on East McFarlane. An argument ensued resulting in the victim being stabbed. This investigation is ongoing and may be gang related. At this time there are no suspects in custody.

Anyone with any information who may have witnessed this event is asked to call Detective Nuñez at 805-339-4328.

*The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at [www.venturapd.org](http://www.venturapd.org)*

*If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.*

*If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.*

**VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT • 1425 DOWELL DR. • VENTURA, CA 93003 • 805-339-4400**  
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