



Porterville Police Department Press Release

- Incident:** Homicide
Participate in Criminal Street Gang
- Date/Time:** August 27, 2007 / 5:03 P.M.
- Location(s):** Sunshine Handy Market, 227 S. Main Street, Porterville
- Victim(s):** Juan Castellanos, 27 Years (at time of incident), Porterville resident
- Suspect(s):** Norberto Gonzalez, 21 Years
Currently Incarcerated at Corcoran State Prison in Corcoran, CA

Summary:

On August 27, 2007, at approximately 5:03 P.M., Porterville Police Officers responded to the Sunshine Handy Market, located at 227 S. Main Street in Porterville, regarding several reports of gunshots fired in the area. When officers arrived they found 27-year-old Juan Castellanos lying in the parking lot suffering from a gun shot wound. Castellanos was transported by ambulance to Sierra view District Hospital where he later died as a result of being shot. Porterville Police Detectives quickly determined that several suspects fired at the victim and fled the scene. This incident was also determined to be gang related and detectives had difficulty in identifying possible suspects.

Due to the initial lack of cooperation by witnesses the case went "cold" until recently, when Detective Vince Buck, through other active investigations, identified one of the suspects in this incident as 21-year-old Norberto Gonzalez. Gonzalez was a juvenile when this crime occurred, however he has since been arrested as an adult on other gang related crimes. Gonzalez is currently serving a prison sentence at Corcoran State Prison. Today the Tulare County District Attorney's Office filed murder charges and gang enhancement charges against Gonzalez for the murder of Juan Castellanos. The 2007 murder case is still being actively investigated by the Porterville Police Department and anybody with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective Vince Buck at (559) 782-7423.