



**CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO
POLICE DEPARTMENT**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For additional information:
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Robbery/Shooting Investigation

On February 17, 2009 at approximately 06:51 P.M., the East Palo Alto Police Department received information from a local hospital emergency room that a gunshot wound victim arrived for medical treatment. Police Officers responded and arrived at the hospital emergency room and contacted the victim, identified as Alex Garcia, a 22 year old Eastbay resident.

A preliminary investigation into the shooting incident revealed that the motive was robbery. The preliminary investigation revealed that Garcia recently queried the internet website, www.craigslist.com with the intent to purchase a vehicle. Garcia located a vehicle that was listed for sale in the city of East Palo Alto and he arranged to purchase the vehicle today.

Arriving in East Palo Alto, Garcia met with the subject who he intended to purchase the vehicle from. Garcia met with the suspect in a parking lot on the 1700 block of E. Bayshore Road and then followed the suspect to the parking lot of 1830 W. Bayshore Road. Arriving in the parking lot of 1830 W. Bayshore Road, Garcia checked on the condition of the vehicle that he intended to purchase. While checking on the condition of the vehicle, Garcia was confronted by three suspects who produced handguns. The suspects demanded money from Garcia and subsequently took \$1300.00 in cash.

During the incident, Garcia fought briefly with one of the suspects who possessed a handgun. While fighting with this particular suspect, Garcia was hit on the head several

times. As the fight continued, the suspect fired his handgun which subsequently grazed Garcia's head. Garcia managed to fight off his assailant and returned to his vehicle and was transported to a local hospital emergency room by friends soon thereafter. The suspects also fled the area in an unknown direction. Garcia sustained a non-life threatening injury and is listed in stable condition.

Detectives from the East Palo Alto Police Department Criminal Investigations Division are actively investigating this matter and are attempting to develop leads. Detectives from the East Palo Alto Police Department Criminal Investigations Division are also actively seeking witnesses who may have seen the crime.

Anyone who may have witnessed or has any knowledge about the crime is urged to call:

Detective David C. Carson 650.853.5957

East Palo Alto Police Dispatch 650.321.1112

The East Palo Alto Tip Line 650.853.8477

Prepared by:

Detective David C. Carson