



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
MEDIA RELEASE



DATE: April 22, 2024

TOPIC: Arrest in Homicide Investigation

CASE NUMBER: 24S-01828

*****UPDATE*****

Santa Cruz Police Arrests Suspect in Homicide Investigation

Santa Cruz, CA - On Friday April 19, 2024, immediately following the reported stabbing, Santa Cruz Police Investigators took Joseph Young into custody at the Santa Cruz Police Department for the charge of murder. Detectives established that Mr. Young and the victim were acquaintances and were both present at the park. Mr. Young and the victim had a disagreement, which led to the stabbing. This was not a random act of violence, and the victim in this case was targeted due to their prior negative relationship with Mr. Young.

BACKGROUND - April 19, 2024 - At approximately 11:56 AM today, Santa Cruz Patrol Officers responded to a stabbing incident on the 1200 block of Branciforte Drive in the George Washington Grove area. The victim was immediately transported to a trauma center, and despite emergency medical care, the adult male victim succumbed to his injuries.

Preliminary investigations indicate that the decedent and others were involved in a physical altercation. All parties were known to each other, and there is no ongoing threat to public safety.

The motive and circumstances surrounding the incident are under investigation. The victim's identity will be released by the Santa Cruz County Coroner's Office once confirmed and next of kin notified.

This is the City's 2nd homicide of 2024.

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