



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP ARRESTS SUSPECTS IN FATAL BAKERSFIELD FREEWAY SHOOTING

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. – California Highway Patrol (CHP) investigators have arrested three suspects in connection with last week’s freeway shooting on State Route 58 in Bakersfield.

On May 5, at approximately 6:33 p.m., the CHP’s Bakersfield Communications Center received a call of a single vehicle crash on eastbound SR-58 east of Union Avenue. Upon arrival, CHP officers determined the solo occupant driver was a victim of a gunshot wound. The victim, a 24-year-old man from Bakersfield, was pronounced deceased at the scene.

At approximately 6:58 p.m. on May 7, CHP investigators arrested Taeviyon Jamil Wandick, 22, of Bakersfield, with the assistance of the Bakersfield Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team. The arrest occurred in the 2000 block of Larcus Avenue in Bakersfield. At approximately 7:21 p.m., CHP investigators arrested Denell Martray King, 23, of Bakersfield, with the assistance of the Bakersfield Police Department SWAT Team. The arrest occurred in the 1400 block of Kentucky Street in Bakersfield.

On May 9 at 10:59 p.m., the Bakersfield Police Department arrested the third suspect in connection to the SR-58 freeway shooting, Christopher Thompson, 19, of Bakersfield, on a no-bail warrant issued by the CHP. This arrest occurred in the 4300 block of Parkwood Court in Bakersfield.

All three suspects were booked into the Kern County Central Receiving Facility on multiple felony charges, including first-degree murder and assault with a firearm.

The arrests are the culmination of a team effort by the CHP Bakersfield Area Investigative Unit, the CHP Central Division Investigative Services Unit, and the Bakersfield Police Department. This is still an active investigation, and no further details will be released at this time.

“The CHP takes incidents of highway violence seriously and actively investigates each one with the goal of arresting those responsible,” said Bakersfield Area Commander Capt. Vince Pagano. “We are thankful for the work of our investigators and the members of the Bakersfield Police Department that led to these arrests.”

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to call the CHP Bakersfield Area Office at 661-396-6600. If you would like to remain anonymous, please call 661-396-3666

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