

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department SERGIO G. DIAZ Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

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NEWBORN REMAINS LOCATED

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Wednesday, January 4, 2017, the Riverside Police Department was notified by Riverside County Child Protective Services (CPS) of a 22-year-old transient woman who recently delivered a baby at a local hospital in the city of Riverside. CPS interviewed the woman who divulged she had given birth to a premature baby about one year ago in a homeless encampment near the Santa Ana river bottom. The baby either died at birth or shortly thereafter. The mother claimed she and the father buried the deceased baby nearby. Prior to the officers' arrival at the hospital, the woman had been discharged and they were unable to contact her.

Yesterday, Detectives from the Sexual Assault – Child Abuse Unit followed up on the investigation and located the mother. They were able to find the area where the mother and father said they buried their baby; an open field along the 5800 block of Central Avenue directly behind the Riverside Municipal Airport. At about 11:00 p.m. last night, with the assistance of the Riverside Fire Department's Urban Search & Rescue canine, the human remains of a small baby were located.



Detectives were assisted by Evidence Technicians from the Forensic Unit and the Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner. Any details as to cause or approximate date of death are pending the Coroner's investigation. CPS took custody of the mother's newborn at the hospital and the mother and father were given assistance resources while the investigation continues.

No arrests have been made at this time and the investigation is still on-going. If anyone has information, please contact Detective Paul Miranda at (951) 353-7945 or Detective Karla Beler at (951) 353-7125.

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