



# News Release



Monterey County Sheriff's Office

Type of Incident: Homicide

Date/Time: 07/20/2017 @ 1909 hours

**Synopsis:** On 07-20-2017 at approximately 1909 hours, the Monterey County Sheriff's Office received and responded to a call in the 10300 block of Merritt Street, Castroville. The call was for a verbal disturbance at the residence. While deputies were enroute to residence the call was updated to being a medical with a possible shot fired. Deputies were on scene within one minute of the call being updated to a possible shooting victim.

Upon arrival deputies found the victim, Cynthia Medina, age 37, of Castroville was found to be unconscious and without a pulse. Arriving deputies immediately began life saving efforts and requested that fire and ambulance personnel enter the scene. Unfortunately despite all life saving efforts Medina was pronounced deceased at the scene a short time later.

The Investigations Division responded and assumed this investigation. During the course of the investigation it was learned that the suspect in this case is Melissa Lillian Paniagua, age 28, a resident of Castroville. The Monterey County Sheriff's Office is actively looking for Paniagua. We are also looking to speak to Paniagua's sister Sylvia Navarro, age 35, a resident of Castroville. Navarro is not a suspect in this case, but has information relating to the homicide. Paniagua is considered to be armed as the weapon used in this case has not been recovered. It is not believed that Paniagua is a danger to the general public, but we caution anyone from approaching her.

Anyone with information about the whereabouts of Paniagua or Navarro is asked to immediately call 911 if they are seen. If anyone has information about this case they are asked to call the Monterey County Sheriff's Office and ask for Detective Rick Jorgensen or Detective Sergeant Bryan Hoskins at 831-755-3722.

Prepared by: Det. Sgt. B. Hoskins

Approving Supervisor: Det. Sgt. B. Hoskins

Work Unit: Investigations – Robbery Homicide

<u>Staff Notified</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>
SHERIFF	_____
UNDERSHERIFF	_____
CHIEF ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS	_____
CHIEF CUSTODY OPERATIONS	_____
CHIEF ADMINISTRATION	_____
CAPTAIN ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS	_____

<u>Staff Notified</u>	<u>Date/time</u>
COMMANDER COASTAL PATROL	_____
COMMANDER SOUTH COUNTY PATROL	_____
RECORDS DIVISION	_____
MEDIA BOARD/P.I.O.	_____
WATCH COMMANDER CENTRAL PATROL	_____
CAPTAIN CUSTODY OPERATIONS	_____