



Oakland Police Department

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Press Release

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## **Oakland Police Department Homicide Investigators Seek Assistance with Identification of Caller on 911 Tapes**

(Oakland, CA) On March 16, 2003 at approximately 7:24 am, an anonymous person called the Oakland Police Department Dispatch Center to report that someone had been shot at 1608 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Oakland Police Officers responded and were unable to locate a shooting victim at the residence as the doors to the residence were locked from the outside. There were no signs of foul play outside of the residence. Twenty minutes later, the same caller phoned 911, a second time, and advised the dispatcher that someone had been shot at the same location. Once again, officers responded to 1608 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue and were unable to locate a shooting victim. Officers made contact with the residents in front of 1608 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The neighbors saw or heard nothing unusual in the area. Twenty four minutes after the second 911 call, the same caller phoned 911 and adamantly stated that someone had been shot at 1608 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue and that it was his third time calling. Officers once again responded to 1608 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue and forced entry into the residence. They immediately observed a Hispanic male, later identified as Jose Cruz, lying on the floor and unresponsive. Cruz was pronounced dead on the scene.

Oakland Police Department Homicide Investigators believe the caller who phoned 911 knows specific details surrounding the death of Jose Cruz and are seeking assistance in identifying this person. Photos of Jose Cruz and the 911 tapes are available to media.

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