

Tehama County Sheriff's Office
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(530) 529-7900

DAVE HENCRATT
SHERIFF

PHIL JOHNSTON
ASSISTANT SHERIFF

PRESS INFORMATION

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Homicide (Update)

CASE NUMBER: 20-00714

GENERAL LOCATION: Thomes Creek, Richfield

DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT: April 30th, 2020 around 8PM

VICTIM #1: Valencia, Edgar Alejandro Villa **AGE:** 22

ADDRESS: Corning

VICTIM #2: Vargas, Juan Manuel Valencia **AGE:** 20

ADDRESS: Corning

Update: On May 3rd, 2020 an autopsy was performed on both victims at the Tehama County Sheriff's Office. Victim #1 was positively identified as Edgar Alejandro Villa Valencia, age 22 of Corning. Mr. Valencia was the victim transported to Saint Elizabeth's Hospital. Mr. Valencia died from a gunshot wound to the torso.

Victim #2 was positively identified as Juan Manuel Valencia Vargas, age 20 of Corning. Mr. Vargas was located at the scene of the shooting, in Thomes creek. Mr. Vargas died from a gunshot wound to the torso.

This investigation is ongoing.

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT: On April 30th, 2020 around 8:00 PM, deputies from the Tehama County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to Thomes Creek just north of Richfield, regarding a shooting incident.

While deputies were enroute to the scene of the shooting, Victim #1, arrived at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, being transported by friends. Victim #1 suffered a single gunshot wound and succumbed to his injury at the hospital.

During the response to the scene of the shooting a Tehama County Sheriff's Deputy was travelling southbound on Highway 99W near Gyle Road with his lights and siren activated. A semi-truck pulled into the deputy's path by making a northbound turn from Gyle Road onto Highway 99W. The deputy took evasive action; however clipped the trailer of the semi-truck. This caused the deputy to lose control and crash his patrol vehicle. The deputy was extricated from the vehicle and transported by ambulance to Saint Elizabeth's hospital for treatment. He was released with minor injuries several hours later. The traffic collision was investigated by the Red Bluff area California Highway Patrol Office.

The Tehama County Major Crimes Unit (TMCU) responded to the initial scene of the shooting to take over the investigation. While processing evidence at the scene, Major Crime investigators located a blood trail leading to a nearby creek. During a search of the area for additional victims, Major Crimes investigators located Victim #2, who was unresponsive and determined to be deceased. He was located approximately 200 yards from the original scene in the creek bed. Victim #2 also suffered from at least one gunshot wound.

The scene was processed by the Tehama Major Crimes Unit and the Department of Justice Crime Scene Unit. The California Highway Patrol and Corning Police Department also assisted in the investigation.

The identity of both Victims has been withheld, pending notification to next of kin.

The homicide investigation is ongoing. If you have any information regarding this investigation please contact Captain Dave Kain, Lt. Jeff Garrett or Investigator White at the Tehama Major Crimes Unit (TMCU) (530) 529-7920.