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**NEWS
RELEASE**

10/27/2023

Neighbor Dispute Escalates To Murder

Date: 10-13-2023 **Time:** 08:25 am

Location: 7600 block of Parral

Victim#1: 62-year-old James Burton from the 7600 block of Parral **(Deceased)**

Victim#2: 54-year-old Joseph Carter from the 7600 block of Parral **(Deceased)**

Victim#3: 65-year-old Ernesto Sanchez from the 7600 block of Parral

Arrested: 68-year-old Mario Velazquez Lechuga of the 7600 block of Parral

Charge: Murder

Judge: R. Nunez

Bond: \$500,000.00

Charge #2: Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon

Judge: Linda Estrada

Bond: \$100,000.00

Charge #3: Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon

Judge: Linda Estrada

Bond: \$100,000.00

Update: On October 19, 2023 Crimes Against Persons detectives charged Velazquez with two additional counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon for victims Carter and Sanchez. He was given a bond of \$100,000.00 for each charge.

On October 20, 2023, Investigators received information Mr. Carter died at the hospital. Investigators are working with the District Attorney's office on enhancing Velazquez's charge to Capital Murder. An updated booking photo will be provided once he is rebooked on the updated charges.

History

El Paso, Texas—On October 13, 2023, police responded to a shooting at the 7600 block of Parral. When officers arrived in the area, they located two individuals with gunshot wounds. Police were able to apprehend the shooter at the scene. The Crimes Against Persons unit was called to handle the investigation. The Initial investigation revealed Burton and Velazquez had a history of having neighbor disputes. On this particular day, Velazquez exited his residence, walked towards Carter and Burton, and began to shoot at them. Velazquez also shot toward Sanchez, who was not hit by any gunfire. Burton and Carter were transported to a local hospital for treatment. At the hospital, Burton died from his injuries. Carter was admitted to the hospital.

Velazquez was booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility for the charge of murder. The investigation continues.

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community