



News Release

Thurston County Sheriff
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*"People First; Public Safety
Always"*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Release # 19-6

Date: March 8, 2019

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Headline: Homicide Investigation

Details:

On March 7th, 2019 at 11:36 pm., TCSO Patrol Deputies and medical aid were dispatched to a report of an adult male gunshot victim within a residence in the 20000 block of Shamon Ct. SW in the unincorporated southwestern portion of Thurston County. A male Juvenile resident of the home made the 911 call and gave sparse information to dispatch while Deputies were still in route. At one point an adult male voice was heard on the phone stating "you have the address" and then no further communication to dispatch.

Patrol Deputies arrived on scene at 11:51 pm. and removed three (3) residents from the home. They included 38-year-old Romulo Yanez Jr. along with a 16-year-old male and an 11-year-old female who are Mr. Yanez's children. None of them were injured.

Deputies entered further inside the home and located another resident, 27-year-old Pedro Beltran Palomares. At the time of his discovery, Mr. Beltran was unresponsive and had multiple gunshot wounds to his body. Deputies administered CPR while awaiting medics, but he was ultimately pronounced deceased at the scene.

Deputies secured the crime scene and TCSO Detectives responded for a homicide investigation. During the investigation at the scene, probable cause was established to arrest Romulo Yanez Jr. for the felony crime of Rendering Criminal Assistance 1st degree. He was booked into the Thurston County Jail on March 8th, 2019 at 7:42 am. Mr. Beltran's children were released to their Mother who is not a resident of the home where the incident occurred.

Detectives continued to process the crime scene, gather evidence and seek witnesses to determine the shooter of this homicide throughout mid-day Friday. Information was developed for a person of strong interest as being the shooter. He was not an immediate threat to the public at large because he had been freshly incarcerated in Jail for an unrelated crime in the early morning hours of March 8th, 2019.

At the time of this press release Detectives are still actively pursuing the case investigation with focus on the person of strong interest. TCSO has opted to broadcast this initial press release so that the public would have basic information of the horrific crime which occurred and help sooth immediate public safety concern of a suspect still being at large. We would ask for media and public patience as we continue to push for a just resolve with this case of highest priority. Follow-up press releases will continue to be broadcast as major developments in the case occur.

