



City of Salinas
POLICE DEPARTMENT
 222 Lincoln Avenue
 Salinas, California 93901
 (408) 758-7236

Police Report

01-051612

CASE NUMBER

CHRG	CRIME	CLASSIFICATION
87 PC	Murder	Person
C	Non-Crime	100
056 PC	Violation Of Parole	

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE (STREET #, STREETNAME, APARTMENT # OR INTERSECTION) PRD 132
 2 W GABILAN ST

DATE / TIME / DAY OCCURRED (FROM) DATE / TIME / DAY OCCURRED (THROUGH) DATE / TIME REPORTED
 05-21-01 / 21:15 / Monday 05-21-01 / / Monday 06-20-01 / 13:00 / Wednesday

PREVIOUS VICTIM							NON-ENGLISH
PERSON#	NAME - LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (FORM IF BUSINESS)	RACE	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	OCCUPATION	
1	SANCHEZ, RAYMOND MICHAEL	H	M	03-06-62	39		

PREVIOUS SUSPECTS										
SUSPECT#	SUSPECT'S NAME - LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE	RACE	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BUILD	HAIR	EYES
1	UNKNOWN	H	M		26	5'7"		THN		
2	FRIAS, ARMANDO TIZOK JR	H	M	07-02-81	19	5'10"	150	THN	BLK	GRN
3	MARTINEZ, ROQUE JR	H	M	10-27-70	30	5'10"	180	THN	BLK	BRN
4	LOPEZ, ISRAEL GALVEZ	H	M	05-31-74	26	5'6"	150	THN	BLK	BRN
5	PENCE, VICTORIA	H	F	02-27-75	26	5'2"	137	MED	BRN	BRN

PERSON # 18 Witness							NON-ENGLISH
NAME - LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE (FORM IF BUSINESS)	RACE	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	OCCUPATION		
RAMIREZ, MARTIN JR	H	M	05-25-73	27	ARMY RESERVE		
PHONE ADDRESS	PHONE	BUSINESS ADDRESS (SCHOOL, IF JUVENILE)	BUSINESS PHONE				
613 Las Cruces Way	N/A	UNEMP					

WEAPON/ROBBERY WEAPON/ASSAULT BURGLARY TYPE TIME OCCURRED
Firearm Night (6 PM - 6 AM)

**NARRATIVE - OFFICER 30511
 GATES, JOHN**

On 6-14-01 subject Martin Ramirez was arrested pursuant to drug violation charges stemming from an ongoing operation. Ramirez was brought to the Police Department for questioning regarding his drug-trafficking and possible involvement or knowledge into the Cap's Saloon homicide case where victim Ray Sanchez was killed.

After Officer Link had made contact with Ramirez and Ramirez invoked his Constitutional Rights, he was then placed in a holding cell. He later was banging on the door of the holding cell, requesting contact with Officer Link. I made contact with Ramirez who informed me that he wished to speak further with Officer Link. I informed him that if he wished to speak with Officer Link that he must reinitiate the interview for discussion with him as he has already requested a lawyer before answering questions. Ramirez stated that he did wish to initiate conversation with Officer Link and would like to speak with him.

While in the hallway area, near the holding cells of the Salinas Police Department, I could hear Ramirez speaking with Sofia Rocha. They were talking back and forth about cooperating with police. Ramirez was asking Rocha if they should cooperate and she was in turn stating that she didn't want and that it was up to him. This conversation went back and forth for several minutes when they decided that they would cooperate.

Ramirez again knocked on the door asking to speak with Officer Link. I informed Officer Link of this information that Ramirez wished contact with him.

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Ramirez then made contact with Officer Link who brought him into the interview room. Ramirez indicated on videotape that he was the one who was initiating this contact and understood his Constitutional Rights which were explained to him and wanted to waive those rights and speak with us without an attorney present. That admonishment and reinitiated interview is all on the videotape as well as this interview that I conducted with Martin Ramirez. That videotape was later marked, tagged, and placed into Evidence.

This follow-up report will be a synopsis of that interview with Martin Ramirez. For further details, refer to the videotape which was placed into Evidence.

Upon first speaking with Martin Ramirez, he explained his personal history. Ramirez stated that he was Northern Structure and that he had met Bird (real name Albert Larez) while at Pelican Bay State Prison. Ramirez stated that he was schooled by Bird into the Nuestra Familia's workings, dealings, and constitution and organization. Ramirez stated that Bird had also told him that when he gets out of prison, he wants Ramirez to work with him in the Nuestra Familia (NF) as security as Bird would be in charge of the regiment that runs from Salinas up to Merced.

Ramirez stated that he has known Armando Santa Cruz from the early days in Salinas when they were all young. Ramirez stated that he was a Salinas East Meta gang member as he was from Acosta Plaza and Armando Santa Cruz was from the East Las Casitas street gang.

Ramirez then explained to me of the new order of the Nuestra Familia. Ramirez stated that the new order contains a general on the inside who runs everything within the prison system and there is a general on the outside who is in charge of all the regiments on the streets.

Ramirez stated that currently the general on the outside who is in charge of all of the regiments in Northern California is a subject by the name of Danny Achille. Ramirez stated that he has regiments in Sacramento County, Santa Clara County, Monterey County, and Tulare County. Ramirez stated that he was introduced to the general, Danny Achille, by Bird.

Ramirez stated that when he was introduced to Achille, he was introduced to him as a "carnal", meaning an NF soldier, by Bird. Ramirez said that Achille knew he really wasn't an NF soldier, just a Northern Structure helper, although Ramirez said that he went to all the NF meetings.

Ramirez said that Bird (Larez) got out of prison in February 2001. Ramirez stated that they hooked up and started working together, making money dealing drugs. Ramirez stated that on one particular night, he drove Bird over to Armando Santa Cruz's residence in Salinas for a meeting. Ramirez stated that once they were at Santa Cruz's residence, Santa Cruz was kind of "tripping" because he was there. Ramirez stated that Santa Cruz had told Bird not to bring Ramirez over there because of Ramirez's family ties.

Ramirez stated that his brother, Miguel Medina, had testified against Matt Rocha in his trial; therefore, they didn't think he could be trusted. Ramirez stated that Bird told Armando that it was okay and that Ramirez was

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a... undercover carnal in the NF and that everything was okay.

Ramirez went on to state that in April of this year 2001, Bird had gotten arrested with Smokey (Jaime Rodriguez) and were both sent back to prison. Ramirez stated that he was then contacted by Achille and was asked by Achille to be the liaison between he, Danny, and Armando Santa Cruz. Ramirez stated that this was because Achille had never actually met Armando Santa Cruz but only knew of him. Ramirez stated that he then introduced Armando Santa Cruz to Achille. Ramirez stated that Armando Santa Cruz, although not knowing Achille personally, was in fact the regimental commander for the Monterey County Nuestra Familia.

Ramirez stated that Achille had told him that he had heard of Armando Santa Cruz and Roque Martinez but that they are youngsters and inexperienced and so he wanted Ramirez to be the one to pass down information from him to them. He stated this way he knew the information would be straight and would go in that order down the ladder from him, to Ramirez, to Santa Cruz, then down to Roque Martinez who had his own street crew.

Ramirez stated that drug money went from the street dealers to Roque Martinez then to Armando Santa Cruz then to Ramirez and up to Achille and everyone made money along the way. Ramirez stated that Achille was giving Santa Cruz approximately \$1,000 a week at least and that Roque and his crews were making their money from the street dealers. Ramirez stated that he had his own crew on the street and that Achille had told Armando Santa Cruz not to get involved with Ramirez's business. Ramirez stated that he was making approximately \$1,800 a week which was a lot better than the \$8 an hour job he had at the time. Ramirez stated that everything is about dealing drugs and making money for the NF and themselves.

I then asked Ramirez why the hit on Ray Sanchez.

Ramirez said that Ray Sanchez was cutting into their money-making business in the drug dealing operation. Ramirez stated that Sanchez had a three to one ratio of dealers, that being for every three of Sanchez's dealers there was one NF dealer. This was cutting into their making money. Ramirez stated that Sanchez had everything across the tracks in Chinatown area so Roque Martinez had his street dealer, who goes by the name of Woody) selling to the rear of the Tortilla Factory at Pajaro/Market St. Ramirez stated that Sanchez didn't like it and went up to "Woody" one day and told him he didn't want him selling there anymore and that he had to leave.

Ramirez stated that Woody left the area because he didn't want to deal with Sanchez and told him what had happened. Ramirez stated that he told Armando Santa Cruz what had happened to Woody and what was told to him and he further told Santa Cruz that he himself would go talk to Sanchez about it. He just wanted to let Santa Cruz know in case Sanchez did something stupid. Ramirez stated after having that conversation with Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz had told him: "let me deal with it."

Ramirez stated that the situation that was going on in the Chinatown and Tortilla Factory area was then explained to the general, Achille. Ramirez stated that Achille had told him that there was enough dope for everyone in



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that area and that what they should do is work out a 50/50 split in the drug trafficking. He explained that for every two of Sanchez's dealers, there should be two of our dealers and this way everyone will make enough money. Ramirez stated that he then passed this information down to Armando Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz then got in touch with Roque and he was explained the 50/50 split two dealer to two dealer ratio and to talk to Ray Sanchez about this working relationship.

Ramirez stated a few days before Sanchez was killed, Roque had made contact with Sanchez at the rear of the Tortilla Factory to explain this business proposition of the 50/50 split. Ramirez stated that Sanchez had basically told him, "fuck you, I'm the king of this area, it's all mine," and did not wish them to work in that area.

Ramirez said the next thing he was told about by a female, Chuka, and the street dealer, Woody, is that after Ray Sanchez had told Roque Martinez, "fuck you, it was his area, he was king, and nobody was going to tell him how to run his dope," that Roque, who was in the accompaniment of Armando Frias, had pulled a gun out on Ray Sanchez. Ramirez stated that Sanchez then took [] running away from the area only to return a while later with his cousins and some of his homeboys who were all armed. Ramirez stated that when they returned, Roque and Armando Frias had left the area.

Ramirez stated that Sanchez started running his mouth and bragging to everyone that he is the chief running this town and look what happened when he came back with his homeboys that Roque just left the area.

Roque Martinez then contacted Armando Santa Cruz, explaining about what had happened about Sanchez running his mouth now and was seeking permission to "hit" Sanchez. Ramirez stated that Santa Cruz then contacted him and that he then made contact with Achille and explained the situation to him about what had happened and that Santa Cruz and Roque Martinez wanted permission to "hit" Ray Sanchez. Ramirez stated that Achille had told him: "No bloodshed. Everything's working out fine."

Ramirez stated that he then told Achille about the threat out there, reference Sanchez's homeboys with guns. Ramirez stated that Achille again said: "No bloodshed. Just make money, but if there's a confrontation go ahead and take care of it." Ramirez stated that he believes Santa Cruz also contacted Achille about this problem and that he had personally asked Achille's permission for the hit. Ramirez stated that he had only heard that information about Santa Cruz's contact. He then went ahead and passed the information on to Armando Santa Cruz from Achille regarding the no bloodshed but if there is a confrontation with the threats to go ahead and take care of it.

Ramirez said that when he passed on the information to Santa Cruz that Santa Cruz then told Roque Martinez to hit Sanchez. Ramirez stated that he believes it was the very next day after that conversation that he had explained to Armando that Armando Santa Cruz had called him and said he (Sanchez) had been taken care of.

I asked Ramirez what specifically was said by Armando Santa Cruz. Ramirez

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said that when Armando Santa Cruz called him, he, Roque Martinez, said Sanchez was taken care of. Ramirez asked, "What?" Armando Santa Cruz then said that he, Roque Martinez, had seen him at the bar, saw the situation, took advantage of it, and took care of him.

Ramirez said that he assumed from the conversation that it was Roque Martinez who had hit Ray Sanchez. Ramirez stated that he then called Achille and relayed the information to him about the hit on Ray Sanchez. Ramirez said that he told Santa Cruz that there was not to be any bloodshed and Santa Cruz said that there was a prior confrontation and threat and that he (Santa Cruz) would call Achille himself and explain it to him. Ramirez said that he then told Santa Cruz to make sure that he tells Achille that he had given him the message about no bloodshed.

Ramirez said he later spoke to Armando Santa Cruz who informed him that he had spoken to Achille and had justified the hit to him.

Ramirez said that it wasn't until a few days later that he learned it was Armando Frias, whom he refers to as Little Mando, who had killed Ray Sanchez and not Roque Martinez. Ramirez said Frias is part of Roque's crew and that Armando Santa Cruz told him he had just found out also that it was him and not Roque who had done the hit. Santa Cruz had informed Ramirez that Roque Martinez had given Frias the order to hit Sanchez. It was also learned from Ramirez that afterwards Frias ended up leaving the area or the state of California.

In an attempt to summarize the statement to Ramirez, I asked him: "In summary, you explained to Danny Achille the problems with drug dealing in Salinas that they were experiencing with Sanchez and that Armando Santa Cruz wanted the okay for the hit on Ray Sanchez and thus Danny told you (Ramirez) no bloodshed, just make money but if there's a confrontation take care of it, do what you got to do. You then pass on this info to Armando Santa Cruz who then tells Roque Martinez to hit Ray Sanchez." Ramirez then stated to me, "Yes. In summary that is it." Ramirez stated the bottom line is it's all about money.

Ramirez was asked who had sponsored Armando Santa Cruz and Roque Martinez or "pulled them in" into the NF. Ramirez stated that it was Copas who is Hector Gallegos. Gallegos is the one who had schooled them and taught them everything they needed to know to become Nuestra Familia persons.

I asked Ramirez if everyone believes that he himself is Nuestra Familia. Ramirez stated that "yes" everyone from the street soldier up but he said he is really not and is just Northern Structure helping out the NF.

After concluding the interview with Ramirez, I spoke with Officer Hauschild and Officer Link regarding their feelings based on their experience as Gang Intelligence Officers. They both stated that they believed Ramirez is a Nuestra Familia member and may be a possible "sleeper."

Request Deputy District Attorney Pam Ham review this report to assess the possible filing of charges on Martin Ramirez in this murder investigation or utilizing him as a witness against persons charged.

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