



Banning Police Department

125 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, CA 92220 (951) 922-3170

Press Release

Date: 04/17/10

Location: 4500 block of W. Ramsey Street, Banning

Incident: Fatal Traffic Collision Update

On 04-16-10, Banning Police Department Personnel arrested Sachin Bhakta for murder, felony hit and run, and driving on a suspended license. He is believed to have had alcohol in his blood at the time of the accident and has three prior DUI convictions. He was booked at the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility in Banning.

Contact Information

On- Duty Watch Commander
(951) 849-1511

-----Press Release Update / 02-01-10-----

On Saturday, 01-30-10, about 3:20 p.m., Banning Police Department personnel located the suspect vehicle in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn Express, located at 3020 W. Ramsey Street, Banning. The vehicle was processed on scene by a Forensic Technician from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and later towed and stored as evidence.

The investigation revealed the operator of the vehicle was inside the hotel. A search of the hotel was conducted with assistance from the Riverside County Sheriff Department's Bloodhound team and members of the San Gorgonio Special

Operations Gang Task Force. The operator of the vehicle, Sachin Bhakta (28 years old from Banning) was located, detained, and interviewed at the Banning Police Department by members of the Detective Bureau and Traffic Bureau. At the end of the interview, the subject was released, pending further investigation.

The investigation is continuing. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Banning Police Department at 951-922-3170.

-----Original Press Release-----

On 01/30/10, about 0100 hours, officers responded to a suspicious circumstances call in the 4500 block of W. Ramsey Street, Banning. Witnesses reported seeing a person down near Ray's RV Sales & Service. When officers arrived, they found a deceased white male, between 18-25 years of age, on the south side of Ramsey Street, along the dirt shoulder.

The victim appeared to have been struck by a vehicle while walking eastbound on the south dirt shoulder of Ramsey Street. The vehicle did not stop and fled eastbound on Ramsey Street, toward Sunset Avenue. The vehicle that struck the pedestrian is possibly a dark colored car with front end damage.

A portion of the accident was captured on a nearby surveillance camera. The Riverside County Coroner's office responded, along with the Riverside County Sheriff Department's Forensic Team.

The collision is being investigated by the Banning Police Department's Traffic Division. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Banning Police Department at 951-922-3170.