



PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Media Relations Unit

Office: 713-920-7970 · Dispatch: 713-477-1221

Media Release

August 15, 2023

Murder of 11-year-old - 1004 Main #204

On Saturday, August 12, 2023, at approximately 3:07 pm, our dispatch center received a call from a male stating that his 11-year-old daughter was not breathing. Our officers immediately responded to the residence where Acadian Medics were already providing medical aid to the female, who was later identified as 11-year-old Maria Gonzalez. Gonzalez was pronounced deceased on scene by Acadian Medics.

Members of our Violent Crimes Unit as well as our Crime Scene Unit, were then dispatched to the apartment for further investigation. As a result of the initial investigation, detectives determined that the victim had been found under a bed by her father after returning home from work. The father, Carmelo Gonzalez, left for work earlier that morning and had been in communication with Maria via cell phone. The last communication he received from Maria was a message stating that someone was knocking at the front door.

The medical examiner concluded that the cause of death was asphyxiation due to strangulation. Additional investigation determined that the victim was sexually assaulted.

As this investigation continues to unfold, the Violent Crimes Unit, along with our Crime Scene Investigations Unit, will continue to process all of the evidence collected and exhaust all leads.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Detective M. Quintanilla at 713-475-7803 or Detective S. Mata at 713-475-7878.

###