



Unintentional Shooting Suspect Arrested for Involuntary Manslaughter

March 19, 2023 – At approximately 8:35 p.m., our communications center received a call for service regarding a male subject that had been shot, in the 27700 block of Watson Road. Menifee Police Department (MPD) officers and CAL FIRE personnel arrived on scene and located an unresponsive 17-year-old male suffering from a gunshot wound to his upper torso. Despite lifesaving measures the male succumbed to his injuries. There were three other teenagers, ages 19, 18, and 17, on scene at the time of the shooting. All three remained on scene and cooperated with the investigation.

MPD detectives and Crime Scene Investigators responded to assist with the investigation. A preliminary investigation revealed the four teenagers were horseplaying with a firearm. While horseplaying, and believing the firearm was not loaded, the 19-year-old, identified as Jesse Duncan, pulled the trigger striking the victim in the upper torso. Duncan and the other two teenagers immediately called for help. Officers located the firearm on scene.

Investigators determined all four subjects knew each other and that this was an isolated incident, with no outstanding suspects, or involved people.

Based on the investigation including interviews, scene examination, and evidence collection, investigators arrested Duncan for Penal Code 192(b), Involuntary Manslaughter. Duncan was booked into custody at the Cois Byrd Detention Center.

On behalf of the Menifee Police Department, we would like to send our deepest condolences to the family of the victim during this very difficult time.

The investigation is ongoing related to the ownership of the firearm and all the circumstances leading up to the shooting. Anyone with additional information regarding the shooting is asked to call the Menifee Police Department at (951) 723-1500. Please reference case number MN23-1378.

Chris Karrer

Chief of Police

