

For Immediate Release January 19, 2024 MN24-0275

FATAL STABBING SUSPECT ARRESTED

Menifee, CA – On Friday, January 19, 2024, at about 3:40 P.M., the Menifee Police Department responded to a call of a disturbance in the area of Copper River Road in the City of Menifee. Upon arrival, Officers located a male adult suffering from apparent stab wounds to his upper torso and was pronounced deceased on scene. Officers determined the suspect had fled on foot prior to their arrival.

Based on the close proximity to Bolder Ridge Elementary School, it was immediately placed on lockdown out of an abundance of caution.

Through an extensive search with partnering agencies, Officers were able to safely locate the suspect and take him into custody. The suspect, 22-year-old Samuel McNeal Jr. of Menifee was taken into custody without incident. He will be booked into Cois Byrd Detention Center.

This was an isolated incident and preliminary investigation revealed the suspect and victim knew each other. There are no outstanding suspects and there is no threat to the public at this time.

Following the arrest of the suspect, the lockdown of Bolder Ridge Elementary School was lifted, and the students were safely reunited with their families.

If you have any additional information related to this incident, please contact Detective Josh Ramirez at (951) 723-1618 or at <u>jramirez@MenifeePolice.org</u>.

Media Contact Chase Coburn Community Engagement Specialist (951) 723-1516 | <u>ccoburn@menifeepolice.org</u>

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Chris Karrer

Chief of Police