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October 15, 2021

UPDATE - Police Investigating Homicide in Southeast Abilene

ABILENE, TX – On Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at approximately 3:37 am, the Abilene Police Department responded to an injured subject call in the 900 block of ES 11th Street. The calling party, a concerned citizen, reported a deceased male lying in the parking lot of a convenience store. Upon arrival, responding Officers located a deceased Hispanic male with apparent trauma. Next of kin notification has been made. The victim has been positively identified as 33-year-old Carlos Veliz Jr. of Abilene.

UPDATE – An arrest has been made in this investigation. The suspect has been identified as 28-year-old Gabriel Balagtas Hall of Sachse, Texas. In the early morning hours of Friday, October 15, 2021, Detectives with the Major Investigations Bureau, with assistance of the United States Marshals Fugitive Task Force, arrested Hall in Sachse, Texas. Hall has been transported to the Taylor County Jail where he is being charged with First Degree Felony Murder and held on a \$400,000 bond.

Hall had previously been arrested on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, for charges of Third Degree Felony Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Felon, Second Degree Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance, to wit: Morphine Sulfate, Second Degree Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance, to wit: Amphetamine, and Third Degree Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance, to wit: Alprazolam. On Monday, September 13, 2021, Hall was released on \$105,000 bond for these charges – where he remained a person of interest in the shooting death of Carlos Veliz Jr.

No further investigative updates are expected.



Respectfully,

John Ramirez
Public Information Officer

Chief of Police | 4565 South First | Abilene, TX | 79605

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first line of
defense
against crime"