



County of Santa Cruz

Sheriff-Coroner

5200 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062
(831) 454-7600

Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Information Release October 23, 2018

Bernardo Rodas Homicide Investigation Case Number: 18-8818

On Wednesday, October 10th Bernardo Rodas, age 41, was reported to be a missing person.

On Saturday, October 13th the Sheriff's Office recovered Mr. Rodas' body off the roadway on upper North Rodeo Gulch.

On Tuesday, October 16th Sheriff's detectives arrested one adult and two minors for the murder of Mr. Rodas.

On Thursday, October 18th the Sheriff's Office pathologist completed an autopsy and determined Mr. Rodas died from a combination of multiple stab wounds to his torso and a gunshot wound to his head.

On Friday, October 19th detectives arrested a fourth suspect – a 17-year old male from Santa Cruz.

Detectives identified a fifth suspect, Jose Leonardo Alfaro Juarez, age 20, and obtained a warrant for his arrest. If you know the location of this suspect use caution and call 911.

Detectives continue to investigate the murder of Mr. Rodas. There is evidence some of the suspects participating in the murder are gang-involved. There is no evidence Mr. Rodas was a gang member. The motive for the killing is unclear and suspects have given conflicting accounts about what happened. Sheriff's detectives continue to investigate to determine if additional suspects are involved in the case.

Anyone with information about this case should contact Sergeant Dee Baldwin: 831.454.7635 or Dee.Baldwin@santacruzcounty.us.

Craig Wilson, Undersheriff

