



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Information Release **October 26, 2018**

Bernardo Rodas Homicide Investigation **Case Number: 18-8818**

Jose Leonardo Alfaro Juarez, age 20, was arrested on Thursday, October 26th, 2018 in Mendota. Juarez is the fifth suspect arrested for the murder of Bernardo Rodas.

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's detectives developed information concerning a home in Mendota where Juarez was hiding and contacted the Fresno County Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium, who arrested him on the Santa Cruz County arrest warrant. Detectives met with officers from Fresno County, took custody of Juarez and booked him into the Santa Cruz County jail last night.

Mr. Rodas, age 41, was reported to be a missing person on October 10th. His body was recovered on October 13th off the roadway on upper North Rodeo Gulch. A forensic autopsy determined Mr. Rodas died from a combination of multiple stab wounds to his torso and a gunshot wound to his head.

Between October 16th and 19th detectives arrested one adult and three minors for the murder of Mr. Rodas. All suspects who have been arrested so far are males, ranging from ages 15 to 22.

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

Craig Wilson, Undersheriff

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