Merced Police Department
NEWS RELEASE

January 1, 2014 **MPD Case # 2014-00000063** **Captain Bimley West**
Office 209-385-8550

For Immediate Release

HOMICIDE IN NORTH MERCED

Date/Time: 01/01/2014 9:38 A.M.
Location: 1300 Block of Derby Ct. – Merced

Victim: Male Adult, Early to Mid-20's (Homicide Victim)

Suspect(s): Unidentified
Charge: Homicide

Merced Police Officers were dispatched to the 1300 Block of Derby Ct. on 12/31/2013 at 11:47 p.m. to investigate a shots fired call. The reporting of shots fired was made at a time that people fire their weapons into the air to celebrate the New Year, which is a celebratory practice that is unsafe and against the law in the City of Merced. Officers later arrived on Derby Ct. to search the area for victims and/or suspects, but did not locate anyone. As the officers were checking the residential areas for individuals involved in the shots fired incident, Dispatch notified the officers that residents in the area reported that people were running thorough their yards. Officers continued to check the neighborhood for people in the area, but did not locate them.

Merced Police Officers later responded back to Derby Ct. to a residence where it was reported that a man was lying on the ground in the backyard of the residence. This call was made to the police department on 1/1/2014, 9:51 a.m. When officers arrived at the scene, they located an unidentified male adult victim lying on the ground. Riggs Paramedics and Merced City Fire personnel also arrived at the scene and determined that the victim was deceased.

Merced Police Department Detectives arrived at the scene to investigate this matter as a homicide. The Crime Scene Evidence Technicians arrived at the crime scene and processed the crime scene to collect any possible evidence at the scene. The extent of the victim's injuries has not been determined by the investigators at the time of this news release. The identity of the victim will be released by the Merced County Coroner's Officer. Investigators have not determined motive for this homicide or whether this is gang related crime.

Merced Police Department Investigations Division is asking for citizens who witnessed this shooting or know the identity of the suspect(s) to contact Detective Sergeant Scott Skinner at 209 385-4702 or the police department tip-line at 209 385-4725. Callers can remain anonymous.

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