



**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
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PRESS RELEASE

An investigation by the Huntington Beach Gang Unit, of a suspect believed to be armed and dangerous, prompted the car stop that led to the fatal shooting of two men by police officers on Tuesday. The investigation was unrelated to a gang shooting that took place in Huntington Beach on Halloween.

Uniformed Huntington Beach Gang Unit investigators and the Directed Enforcement Team had spotted a woman and two men entering a green, four-door Lexus in the City of Huntington Beach. When the car entered the City of Westminster, a backup unit was requested and a car stop was made on Hammond Place, north of Westminster Boulevard in Westminster at about 4:30 p.m.

The woman driver exited the car and police subsequently heard gunfire from inside the vehicle. Two officers, believing they were being fired upon, returned fire. The two adult men were hit by gunfire inside the car and were later pronounced dead at the scene. A .40 caliber handgun was found inside the Lexus.

No police officers were injured.

The names of the deceased are being withheld pending the notification of their next of kin.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department is investigating the officer involved shooting, according a memorandum of understanding between the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the Huntington Beach Police Department.

The police officers involved in the shooting are not being identified at this time. Both officers are veterans of more than 20 years in law enforcement and have been placed on administrative leave, which is routine after an officer involved shooting.

No further information will be released about the case at this time.