



APD NEWS

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8th St. Austin, Texas 78701

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2008

Contact: Public Information Office, 974-5017

Deceased Person

Case: 08-1071204

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: 1400 Nash Hernandez

Deceased: Riad Hamad (D. O. B. 9-20-52)

Narrative:

On Monday, April 14, 2008, Riad Hamad was reported missing by his family. APD personnel provided resources in an attempt to locate Hamad but were unsuccessful. On Tuesday, April 15, 2008, information was provided to the missing persons unit by persons close to Hamad that he had been experiencing suicidal thoughts. APD continued its attempt to locate Hamad with the assistance of his family. On this same day, APD located Hamad's vehicle parked near Lady Bird Lake. An extensive search was conducted of the area but Hamad was not found.

At 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, 2008, a body was reported floating in Lady Bird Lake near Comal and Nash Hernandez Streets. When the body was removed from the lake, tape was found around the eyes, and the hands and legs were loosely bound. The bindings of his hands and legs and placement of the tape were consistent with Hamad having done this to himself. Detectives know that Hamad walked from his vehicle to the water on his own based on evidence retrieved from the scene.

At this time, the Austin Police Department does not suspect foul play was involved. Witnesses and family members have confirmed with police that Hamad



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had extreme stressors in his life. This incident is still an on going investigation, but all signs indicate this may have been a suicide.

According to the preliminary results from the Medical Examiner's Office there were no signs of trauma to the body or signs of a struggle.

The Austin Police Department is asking for the public's assistance with anyone who may have seen Hamad between late Monday evening and Tuesday to contact the Homicide Unit at 477-3855.

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