



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Tacoma Police Department**  
**Tacoma, Washington**  
[cityoftacoma.org/police](http://cityoftacoma.org/police)

### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 11, 2022

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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### **Suspect Charged with Murder**

Tacoma, Wash. – On May 7, 2022, at 11:17 p.m., South Sound 911 received multiple reports of shots fired and the sound of a vehicle speeding away in the area of E. 35<sup>th</sup> St. and E. D St. Responding officers located shell casings in the roadway but did not find any victims.

A victim from this shooting was dropped off by private vehicle to Tacoma General Hospital's Emergency Room a short time later. The victim succumbed to his injuries at the hospital.

The Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office identified the victim as Samuel Garza-Gonzalez, a 24-year-old male.

Detectives and crime scene technicians responded to both scenes. Detectives obtained video footage that identified the suspect vehicle.

On May 8, at 2:49 p.m., while detectives were canvassing for further evidence, they observed the occupied suspect vehicle used during the homicide. A traffic stop was attempted in the 3400 block of E. McKinley Ave, but the driver failed to pull over and a pursuit was initiated. The pursuit ended at River Road and Meridian Ave. when the suspect vehicle became inoperable. The driver and sole occupant was taken into custody without incident.

The suspect vehicle was impounded for a search warrant.

The 27-year-old male driver was booked into jail for Felony Elude and two unrelated warrants.

Today, the 27-year-old male was charged in Pierce County Superior Court with Murder First Degree, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm First Degree and Assault First Degree in the murder of Samuel Garza-Gonzalez.

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