Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

**For further information, contact: Detective Thomas**          **Phone: (614) 645 - 4730**

**Ext: 7581**

**Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide**          **Date: 8/31/2025**          **Time: 3:27 AM**

**Location of Offense/Incident: 700 block of Stelzer Road**     **Zone: 6**          **Precinct: 7**

**Incident Report #: 250637777**                         **Cruiser District: 74**

| Victim: Rene Villanueva Soto | Sex: Male | Race: Hisp | Age: 37 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Victim: Adult | Sex: | Race: | Age: |
| Victim: | Sex: | Race: | Age: |

**Suspect:**                                          **Address:**

☐ **Arrested**     ☐ **Warrant on File**     **Sex:**          **Race:**          **Age:**

**Charges:**

**Suspect:**                                          **Address:**

☐ **Arrested**     ☐ **Warrant on File**     **Sex:**          **Race:**          **Age:**

**Charges:**

**Incident Summary:**   On August 31, 2025, at approximately 3:37 AM, Columbus Police Patrol officers were dispatched to the 700 block of Stelzer Road on report of a shooting. Officers arrived at scene and found two victims suffering apparent gunshot wounds. Both victims were transported to a local hospital by personnel from CFD Medics 20 and 21. Despite all efforts by medical personnel, one of the victims, Mr. Rene Villanueva Soto, was pronounced deceased at 4:07 AM by hospital staff. Next of kin have been notified.

The second victim remains in stable condition and is expected to survive their injuries.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call Columbus Police Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477).  Detective Thomas is the lead detective on the case and is being assisted by Detective Titus.

**Copy To:**     ☒ **Executive Staff**       ☒ **Bureau Commander**       ☒ **Public Information Office**

**Prepared By: Sgt. D. Harrington #5342**     **Assignment: Homicide**       **Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730**

**Approved By: Sgt. D. Harrington #5342**     **Assignment: Homicide**