

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## Glendale Police Make Arrest in Morning Shooting

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at approximately 8:45am in the morning, Glendale Police received a 911 call of a shooting at a residence in the 4700 block of W. Oranewood Avenue. On arrival, officers were directed by individuals to a condo where police located 25 year old John Mengel, a resident of Glendale. John had sustained a gunshot wound and was declared deceased at the scene by Glendale Fire.

Witnesses inside the residence provided information to police that the suspect, 22 year old Glendale resident Justice Wolfgang Burkhart, had fled the scene on foot prior to police arrival. Officers established a perimeter and began searching for the suspect. The investigation revealed Justice went to a residence of an acquaintance nearby. That acquaintance encouraged Justice to return to the scene and contact police. He then drove Justice back to the scene while police were still conducting a search. On arrival, both were temporarily detained by police without incident. That acquaintance was interviewed by police and later released. Justice Burkhart was positively identified as the suspect police were searching for and was detained for questioning by Detectives. Several media outlets on scene captured footage of the two men being taken into custody when they arrived on scene. To clarify in the footage, the suspect Justice Burkhart is wearing a black shirt. Justin's acquaintance who was driving the vehicle and brought him back to the scene was wearing a white shirt.

Detectives from the Glendale Police Homicide Unit assumed the investigation. Justice Burkhart has been talking with Detectives. During the interview with Detectives, Justice Burkhart confessed to his involvement in the shooting and killing of his former roommate John Mengel. John had recently moved out of the residence and had returned for property. While in the residence, Justice and John got into a verbal dispute over property. Justice admitted that during the dispute, he produced a weapon and shot and killed John. Detectives working the case have established probable cause for the arrest of Justice Wolfgang Burkhart. He is being charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder and will be booked this evening into the 4th Avenue Jail. The investigation is ongoing. The booking photo and Form IV will need to be obtained from MCSO.

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*\*Spanish translation available*

*“The Glendale Police Department’s mission  
is to protect the lives and property of the people we serve.”*

*Glendale Police Department  
a proud recipient of CALEA National Accreditation since 2000*