

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Update – Human Remains Found in Wittman

GLENDALE, Ariz. – On Sunday, March 27, 2016, the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office responded to reports of possible human remains found in Wittman, AZ. During the course of their investigation, it became apparent that those remains may be related to an open case from Glendale. Glendale Detectives diligently worked with MCSO to process the location where the remains had been located. DNA testing performed by the Arizona Department of Public Safety positively identified the remains as those of **27-year old Uridan Barrera**, a resident of Glendale.

Barrera went missing on July 3, 2015 after being kidnapped by several armed suspects (see attached press release from July 4, 2015). Investigators from the Glendale Police Department worked with federal, state, county and local agencies to attempt to locate Barrera. On December 1, 2015, four suspects were located by undercover detectives and all were arrested for the kidnapping and aggravated assault of Barrera. Detectives are still gathering information on the motive, but believe the altercation between the four suspects and Uridan was over a monetary debt. Those arrested were 22-year old Jesus Romero-Gomez of Glendale, 23-year old Miguel Herrera Jr. of Glendale, 23-year old Luis Avelar Hernandez of Glendale and 26-year old Cesar Cervantes of Glendale (photos attached with booking numbers). Form IV’s are available upon request through MCSO. All four suspects are still in the custody of MCSO at this time. Investigators are now working with Maricopa County Attorney’s Office to charge these four individuals with the murder of Barrera.

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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*