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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preliminary Ballistics Confirm Murder Weapon

On Wednesday, December 1, 2010, Beverly Hills Detectives transported evidence from the Chasen homicide investigation to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau/Firearms Section for initial analysis.

That afternoon, following up on a tip received from "America's Most Wanted," Beverly Hills Detectives responded to the Harvey Apartments in the 5600 block of Santa Monica Boulevard, in the City of Los Angeles. The person of interest, "Harold Martin Smith," returned to the location, and once inside was contacted by Beverly Hills Police personnel. It was at this time Mr. Smith drew his weapon and took his own life. Mr. Smith sustained a single self inflicted gunshot wound to the head and expired at the scene.

On Thursday, December 2, 2010, Beverly Hills Police detectives requested the release of the weapon used in the commission of this suicide to be turned over to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau/Firearms Section. This request was granted and a ballistic comparison was begun between the evidence recovered from the Chasen homicide investigation.

The Beverly Hills Police Department has been notified by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau/Firearms Section that they have a preliminary ballistics result. The weapon used by our person of interest, "Harold Martin Smith" to commit suicide does preliminarily match the evidence from the Chasen homicide investigation. This is a preliminary match at this time with a completed analysis review and report expected within the next two weeks.

This is one of many aspects being investigated by the Beverly Hills detectives attempting to solve this heinous crime.

Any additional information can be provided to the 24 hour detective hotline at 310-288-2656.

The Police Department will provide the media with immediate updates as new developments occur.