

Stanislaus County  
**SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson  
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



**MEDIA RELATIONS**



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: 09-25-10  
TIME: 7:30 p.m.**

**INVESTIGATORS RELEASE NAMES OF PARTIES INVOLVED IN DONALD ST SHOOTING**

**Modesto, CA** – Sheriff's Department officials have released the names of the parties involved in the Donald Street shooting, which occurred Friday evening.

The deceased is identified as Rita Elias, 31, of Modesto. Elias was fatally shot by off-duty sheriff's detective Kari Abbey, a six-year veteran of the department. Abbey is currently assigned to the sheriff's department investigations unit as a detective.

The incident occurred when Abbey was in the 1700 #Blk Donald Street on personal business. Abbey was confronted by Elias who eventually revealed a weapon and threatened Abbey. Witness statements and physical evidence at the scene contradict reports from Elias' family that she was unarmed. Based on witness statements Elias' family members were not on scene during the incident.

The investigation is ongoing and further details will be released as they become available.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Frank Soria at (209) 525-7080. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636. Tipsters can also e-mail tips at <http://www.modestopolice.com/CrimeStoppers>, or text them to CRIMES (274637) by typing "Tip704" plus the message and be eligible for a cash reward.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Andrew Winter (209) 652-0300 ([awinter@stanislaussheriff.com](mailto:awinter@stanislaussheriff.com)).