

## SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1856

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 24, 2023 Twitter: @SMCSheriff

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## **Press Conference Regarding Half Moon Bay Mass Shooting**

## **Summary:**

Earlier this morning Sheriff Christina Corpus, along with San Mateo County District Attorney Steven Wagstaff, provided an update on yesterday's horrific mass shooting incident in Half Moon Bay. The following is a summary of the details shared during the press conference:

The suspect has been identified as 66-year-old Chunli Zhao of Half Moon Bay. Zhao was taken into custody by Sheriff's personnel in the parking lot of the Half Moon Bay Police Bureau Substation. Zhao is the only suspect in the incident, there is no outstanding threat to the public. A semi-automatic handgun was located inside of Zhoa's vehicle. Zhoa was later booked into the San Mateo County Maguire Correctional Facility on seven (7) counts of 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder, (1) count of 1<sup>st</sup> degree attempted murder. Each count also included an enhancement of using a firearm in the course of the alleged crimes.

Zhao was a co-worker or former co-worker of the victims at each shooting site. Based on information obtained so far, this appears to be an act of workplace violence. Zhao had no known criminal history in San Mateo County and there were no preceding factors known to law enforcement that would have suggested Zhao was about to carry out this heinous act of violence.

There were eight (8) gunshot victims, seven (7) of which are deceased. The deceased victims are five (5) adult males and two (2) adult female. The surviving victim is an adult male. The surviving victim is being treated at a trauma center for his injuries. The victims are of Hispanic and Asian descent. There were no children physically injured during the shootings. The identifications and ages of the victims are still being investigated. Further information about the victims is being withheld pending confirmed and notification to their loved ones by the San Mateo County Coroner's Office.



The shooting sites were located in the 12700 block of San Mateo Road and 2100 block of Cabrillo Highway South. Both sites are located in Half Moon Bay.

Sheriff's Office personnel in conjunction with the FBI and other assisting outside agencies are still actively investigating the circumstances leading up to, during and after these shooting incidents. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Deschler at 1-800-547-2700.

Written by: Captain Eamonn Allen Release Date: 01/24/2023

