ACCIDENTAL DEATH UNDER INVESTIGATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2010

Contact: Jay Trisler, Sergeant
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On April 20, 2010 at 5:08 p.m., the Santa Monica Police Department responded to the 800 block of 18th Street regarding a medical emergency.

Upon arrival, officers discovered a 12-year-old white male who was in full cardiac arrest. The juvenile was transported to a local hospital.

On April 22, 2010 at 12:00 a.m., the juvenile was taken off life support and pronounced deceased a short time later.

The Santa Monica Police Department is investigating this incident as an accidental death. Preliminary information reveals that the accidental death may have been as a result of the juvenile engaging in the “Choking Game.”

The object of the “Choking Game” is asphyxiation. Asphyxiation results by applying pressure which restricts oxygen and/or blood flow to the brain of the victim therefore creating a desired euphoric sensation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Investigator Maury Sumlin (310) 458-8437, or Sergeant Ira Rutan (310) 458-8959 or the Santa Monica Police Department (24 hours) (310) 458-8495.