

RIVERSIDE:

Man shot by police ID'd; had criminal record

Vicente Martinez, 34, was shot and killed after running from police and pointing a gun at them, according to authorities.

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Published: Nov. 20, 2014 Updated: 5:45 p.m.



Vicente Martinez
COURTESY OF THE MARTINEZ FAMILY

IF YOU WISH TO HELP

The family is soliciting donations to assist with expenses. Anyone wishing to donate can go to giveforward.com and search for Vincent Martinez.

Martinez fled on foot, however, a siren could be heard as officers pursued in their vehicles.

Martinez is survived by three daughters and his wife, Tamara. Relatives, who said he went by the first name Vincent, described him as a family man with a good sense of humor.

Martinez also had a troubled past.

He was convicted of possessing a controlled substance in 1998; being under the influence of a controlled substance in 2000; grand theft auto and false

The Riverside County coroner on Thursday, Nov. 20, formally identified the man shot to death by Riverside police as Vicente Martinez, 34.

Police said they were conducting a narcotics investigation near Martinez's house Tuesday when they spotted his car and tried to stop it shortly before 2:30 p.m. Martinez kept driving until he reached his driveway, pulled in and got out of the car, then led officers on a foot chase before pulling a loaded gun, police said in a news release. Martinez died in a neighbor's backyard in the 10400 block of Keller Avenue.

Family members asserted that police did not identify themselves before shooting. In an audio recording of the police broadcast moments before

imprisonment in 2001; stalking, making criminal threats and violating a court order to prevent domestic violence in 2002; identity theft in 2006; being a prisoner in possession of a weapon in 2008; driving under the influence in 2012; and malicious disturbance in 2014, according to Riverside Superior Court records.

The woman he recently married, Tamara Luna, filed for a restraining order against Martinez in 2002, court records show. She said in a text message Thursday that Martinez was her best friend and “an amazing father.”