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Two Shooting Deaths Reported Near SMU-in-Taos Campus

New Mexico law enforcement authorities are investigating the early Monday morning shooting deaths of two northern New Mexico teenagers, whose bodies were found inside a vehicle on a Carson National Forest road not far from the entrance to the SMU-in-Taos campus. The victims, both male, were shot between midnight and 4 a.m. Monday, authorities said.

A suspect, 18-year-old Jose Rivera, is being sought for questioning. Anyone with information regarding Rivera or the incident is urged to call Crimestoppers anonymously at 505-843-STOP(7867). A reward is being offered.

Authorities offer the following safety tips:

- Always be aware of your surroundings, especially in parking lots and isolated areas. Have your keys ready as you approach your car and lock your doors after entering.

- If you witness a crime, or see something suspicious, call police immediately at 911. Time is of the essence in such situations.

- If you go out with friends, leave with your friends. Friends keep an eye out for each other at all times. Don't let a friend leave alone.

- Have a secret "help" signal with friends if you don't feel comfortable with someone at a club or bar.

- Don't prop open self-locking doors.

- Lockable doors in your casita room should be locked.

- Stay on paved roads and highways when driving outside of the SMU-in-Taos campus.

- Watch your keys. Don’t lend them. Don’t leave them. Don’t lose them. And don’t put your name and address on the key ring.