



Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA  
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May 2, 2001

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ALLAN G. LIPSKY *Allan Lipsky*  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY REPORTS ON HIJACKING OF MTA BUS,  
POLICE PURSUIT AND INJURIES

At 4:28 p.m. this afternoon, one of our CNG buses was hijacked with only the driver on board. We had reports that the hijacking followed a gun battle with police. The driver was taken hostage and the bus was pursued through downtown Los Angeles. The chase ended when the bus crashed into a SUV crossing an intersection and then into parked cars at 3<sup>rd</sup> and San Pedro. We have a preliminary report that the driver of the SUV was killed and that six other individuals suffered injuries. Our bus driver apparently has minor injuries. The suspect is in police custody.

This incident is receiving extensive news coverage. We will have a more complete report tomorrow morning.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 3, 2001  
PR01256



LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ROBBERY HOMICIDE DIVISION  
PRESS RELEASE

*"MTA Bus Hijacker Arrested Following Police Pursuit"*

The driver of the van struck by the bus was identified as Guadalupe Arevalos, a 34 years-old female Hispanic and resident of Norwalk. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The original victim of the shooting by Suspect Garcia stated that prior to being shot, Garcia told him he did not like black men associating with Hispanic women. He is in critical condition at Los Angeles County USC Medical Center. The bus driver sustained facial and other minor injuries as a result of the collision and was admitted into a local hospital in stable condition. The passengers in the bus were treated for minor injuries at local hospitals and released.

Suspect Garcia was booked for murder at the Jail Ward of Los Angeles County USC Medical Center.

Robbery-Homicide Division and Critical Incident Investigation Division Detectives are investigating the incident. For further information regarding this press release, please call Media Relations at 213-485-3586.

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