

Tanner supervised a team. The deputies at the east side began to tactically retreat south.

When deputies from the LASD Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) arrived, Lancaster deputies retreated to the station. Gelardo tactically retreated his team to the maintenance yard located at the southwest side of the lot.

Deputy Christopher Hita

On August 21, 2019, at approximately 2048 hours, Investigators Hernandez and Iberri interviewed Deputy Christopher Hita, assigned to Lancaster Station as a Motor Officer.

Deputy Hita was riding through the northeast side of the lot cruising in his LASD motorcycle looking for a fellow deputy, who normally comes on at that time. As he was travelling southbound on one of the rows of the parking lot. He saw a deputy who he did not recognize (believed to be Deputy Angel Reinoso). The deputy was holding some papers possibly a posse box. Hita waved to say hi and to check if everything was okay. The deputy did not reply. Hita was unsure if the deputy had seen him. Hita also did not know if this in fact was Deputy Reinoso.

Hita continued southbound through the parking lot toward the Sierra exit gate (the south gate). As he approached the gate, Hita heard a muffled pop followed one to three seconds later by another muffled pop. It was not a loud obvious bang, rather it was more like a subtle pop. Hita did not think too much of the pop because things happen there near the station and it sounded like someone had thrown something. Hita looked around but saw nothing unusual. Hita did not know where the pops came from. He had his helmet on, so the sound was muffled.

As he exited the south gate, he heard via his radio a deputy say that he was taking rounds north of the helipad and that he had been shot in the shoulder through and through. Hita then went north on Sierra Highway to the north gate and re-entered the lot. He parked his motor unit at the red island in front of the booking line. He ran to the deputies east of the helipad. He heard via the radio that the deputy had already been transported out of the lot and taken to Fire Station 33.