



Phoenix Police Department
Public Affairs Bureau
100 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



MEDIA ADVISORY

Date/Time: July 28, 2026, around 4:00 a.m.
Incident: 2026-1036204
Location: 4400 East Baseline Road
Victim: Bill Blancas, 36-year-old male, deceased

UPDATE (August 10, 2026) — This case is now being investigated as a homicide. Detectives learned that the victim became unresponsive during a fight with family members. When officers arrived, they received information from the family that led them to place the victim in handcuffs. Fire personnel took the man to the hospital, where he later died.

Based on what detectives now know, we have determined this incident does not meet the criteria for a Critical Incident Briefing video. To remain transparent, we are releasing [a portion of the body-worn camera video](#) showing the handcuffing and medical treatment of the victim with this advisory. No other documents, videos or audio recordings will be released at this time because the homicide investigation is still ongoing.

An administrative investigation into this incident will be conducted by the Department's Professional Standards Bureau.

HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION

ORIGINAL INFO: (July 29, 2026) — On July 28th, 2026, at around 4:00 a.m., Phoenix Police officers responded to an emergency radio call of an unknown trouble which turned out to be a physical fight at a home in the area of 44th Street and Baseline Road. When officers arrived, they detained an adult male in handcuffs who was being restrained by a man and woman prior to police arrival. The man was later identified as 36-year-old Bill Blancas.

Officers assessed Mr. Blancas and found him to be unresponsive. At this time, they removed the handcuffs and asked for the fire department to respond. Phoenix Fire arrived and transported him to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

Detectives from the Violent Crimes Bureau Homicide Unit responded to assume the investigation. Cause of death will ultimately be determined by the Office of the Medical Examiner.

In accordance with transparency protocol, a Critical Incident Briefing video with available facts and circumstances will be released 14 days from this incident.

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