

FALLEN FINEST

DETECTIVE FIRST GRADE DANIEL ENCHAUTEGUI 40 Precinct



On Saturday, December 10, 2005, Detective Daniel Enchautegui was shot and killed when he interrupted a burglary in progress while off-duty.

At about 5:00 am, Enchautegui, a police officer at the time, had just returned home after finishing a late tour when he heard breaking glass at his

neighbor's residence located on Arnow Place in the Bronx. He called 911 to report a possible burglary in progress. He then grabbed his off-duty 9mm weapon, put his shield around his neck so he would not be mistaken for a suspect by responding officers and went outside to investigate.

As Officer Enchautegui waited for back-up units, two suspects emerged from the rear of the location. Officer Enchautegui drew his weapon and identified himself as a police officer by yelling "Police, Don't Move" in both English and Spanish. One of the men turned and opened fire with a .357 caliber handgun, striking Officer Enchautegui once in the chest, piercing his heart. Despite being mortally wounded, Officer Enchautegui returned fire, discharging all eight rounds from his weapon. He struck one suspect twice and the other six times.

Officers responding to the scene apprehended both suspects as they were attempting to flee and recovered the weapon used against Officer Enchautegui.

Officer Enchautegui was rushed by Ambulance to Jacobi Medical Center where he died from his wound an hour later.

In November 2008, one suspect was convicted of Aggravated Murder and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. The second suspect, an actor with previous arrests including narcotics, was acquitted of Murder charges, but found guilty of first-degree Attempted Burglary.

Police Officer Enchautegui was posthumously promoted to the rank of Detective First Grade on December 14, 2005 by the Police Commissioner. On June 15, 2006, he was posthumously awarded the NYPD's highest award: the Medal of Honor.

Detective Daniel Enchautegui was 28 years old and had served with the New York City Police Department for three years. He was survived by his parents, Pedro and Maria; and his sister, Yolanda.

