



**Dismembered body identified
March 12, 2009**

The dismembered body found yesterday in garbage bags in an Oak Park alley has been identified as that of Rafael Ramirez, Jr., 28, of the 2700 block of N. Nordica Ave., Chicago. Ramirez's identity was established by various body markings and later confirmed by a close relationship.

"We believe the victim was killed in another location and the body was randomly left in Oak Park," Police Chief Ricky C. Tanksley said. "Information thus far leads us to believe this is a gang or drug-related homicide. Our investigation into what occurred is continuing."

An anonymous tip line has been established by police at 708.434.1636. Anonymous tips can also be submitted online at www.oak-park.us/Police/crime_tips.htm. Police officials are asking those who may know anything about the crime to call with information immediately.

Oak Park Police responded to a call yesterday around 11 a.m. and found the dismembered body in four, large garbage bags on a garage apron on the 1000 block of Clarence Avenue.

Following the discovery, a canvas of the neighborhood established that the bags had been left sometime between 9:30 p.m. Tuesday night and 6:30 a.m. Wednesday morning.

Investigating officers arrived on the scene within minutes of the call and confirmed the contents of the bags. Police quickly secured and photographed the scene and contacted the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, which then took possession of the remains.

Photo Attached.

Authority: Chief Ricky C. Tanksley

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