

Silicon Valley murder-suicide toll now six

by UPI

SANTA CLARA, Calif. -- The death toll rose to six Monday in an apparent murder-suicide in a home in California's Silicon Valley, police said.

Santa Clara, Calif., Police Lt. Phil Cooke said an infant girl found wounded in the home Sunday night died at a hospital while a seventh victim remained hospitalized.

The identities of the victims weren't released; however the San Francisco Chronicle said they were believed to be members of the family that resided in the home in the upscale Rivermark neighborhood.

"We do believe this appears to be a family-on-family murder-suicide," Cooke said.

Police were called Sunday night when a neighbor saw an injured woman outside the home. She was taken to a hospital and was listed in critical condition Monday. When officers entered the home, they found five bodies along with the baby girl, who was wounded.

The incident prompted Santa Clara Mayor Patricia Mahan to urge citizens to be on guard for neighbors and relatives who might be under stress at home due to the wilting economy.

"When things get tough in life, in the world, it seems that these kinds of incidents erupt and I would just urge all of our community to pay attention to your neighbors," she told the Chronicle. "So often the greatest regret is the feeling that this could have been prevented if somebody had seen something or someone could have intervened in some way."

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