



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Det. Lt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: 717 7353300

Date: June 2, 2009

33 E. Farnum St. Fatal Shooting

Shortly before 12:15 am, Thursday, May 21st, Lancaster City Police Officers were dispatched to a call of shots being fired in the area of Farnum St Towers, located at 33 E. Farnum St, in Lancaster City. Upon arriving and checking the area, Officers located a deceased male near the northwest corner of the parking lot to this high rise apartment building, who was later identified as Thomas Ray Brown III, 35 years of age. Officers on the scene were able to locate two small bags of suspected cocaine near the deceased, as well as other evidence, to include a backpack, a sneaker, a cell phone and an envelope with a Pa. Magisterial District number on it. Detectives and Evidence Technicians processed the crime scene and conducted interviews of several witnesses throughout that night and into the next morning.

Investigators learned that two younger unidentified males were observed running into the Farnum St Towers Apartment Building immediately after shots were heard ringing out and these males were yelling for someone to call the police. It was also learned that immediately after the gunshots were heard, another subject was seen in the parking lot attempting to carry someone, who was apparently injured and shortly after that, a light or gold colored vehicle was seen leaving the area of the parking lot and turning west on to Farnum St. Detectives were able to secure the video from the apartment building, which depicted some of this activity. After printing still photos of the two subjects, who initially ran into the apartment building, Detectives were able to identify them as....

Jerry James, 19
400 Blk Atlantic Ave
Lancaster, Pa.

Ray Bradshaw, 19
600 Blk S. Christian St.
Lancaster, Pa.

It appeared from the video that Ray Bradshaw had some sort of injury to his left shoulder. Detectives were also able to retrieve video from a near by garage, which showed this light or gold colored vehicle, which left the parking lot, to be a Saturn coupe. A Lancaster Community Safety Coalition video also showed the vehicle that



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picked up the two males who had initially run into the apartment building and it showed this taking place in the area of Duke, Farnum and Church Sts.

Through the envelope located in the parking lot, and by contacting the corresponding Magisterial District Office, Detectives were able to determine that the envelope belonged to.....

Quenton Larshar Skrine, 34
100 Blk N. Ridge Drive
Landisville, Pa.

It was further determined that Skrine had received traffic citations through this office and that he had been operating a 2002 gold Saturn coupe at that time. This vehicle would very closely resemble the one seen on the video leaving the scene. As a result, Detectives began to search for this vehicle and managed to locate it shortly before 10:30 am, May 21st in the 1st Blk Lincoln West Drive in Mountville, Pa. At this point, Investigators began to conduct a round the clock surveillance on this vehicle at that location.

During this time, Detectives were also able to locate a vehicle connected to Jerry James and/or Ray Bradshaw and surveillance on this vehicle began as well. As witnesses continued to be interviewed throughout the day on May 21st, shortly before 5:45 pm that evening, Jerry James and Ray Bradshaw came to the police station, of their own volition, wanting to speak to detectives about this. Ray Bradshaw was suffering from a dislocated shoulder and was treated at Lancaster General Hospital and both of these individuals were interviewed throughout that evening and into the next morning by Detectives.

It was learned through these interviews, that both James and Bradshaw were walking in the 1st Blk E. Farnum St, that they were approached by two subjects in a gold colored Saturn coupe and that they got into this vehicle with the intentions of conducting a drug transaction. It was learned that James and Bradshaw were seated in the rear of the Saturn and that during this time, both the driver (later learned to be Skrine) and the passenger (the deceased) pulled guns on James and Bradshaw and demanded their possessions. It was learned that they gave them a cell phone, a pack of Newport Cigarettes, a lighter, a ten dollar bill and 3-4 bags of crack cocaine and that after doing so, James managed to disarm the driver (Skrine), then the deceased jumped in the rear seat and a



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violent struggle ensued between him and James and that during this struggle, James shot him multiple times in the area of his torso. During this altercation inside the vehicle, the driver(Skrine) and Bradshaw jumped out and physical altercation between them ensued outside the vehicle, which led to Bradshaw's shoulder injury. As a result, this gave both Bradshaw and James the opportunity to flee on foot, which they did, yelling for others to call the police, as they ran into the apartment building, where they were subsequently captured on video. Unable to gain access into the interior of the building, they continued to flee the area, running east and jumping a fence surrounding the apartment building to Duke St. During this time, Skrine fled the scene in the gold Saturn, leaving the deceased behind. It was further learned that James discarded the gun, that he had gotten from Skrine, on the east side of 100 Blk S. Duke St. With the assistance of James, this gun, which turned out to be a Kel-Tec .32 caliber semi-automatic handgun, was recovered by detectives at about 7:00 pm, May 21st.

As detectives then continued surveillance on the gold Saturn, a search warrant was obtained to seize and search the vehicle, during the afternoon of May 22nd. This search warrant was then executed at about 4:00 pm, May 22nd and police took custody of this vehicle. As the police ordered tow truck showed up to tow this vehicle to the police station, Skrine came out to the vehicle and spoke to detectives. He agreed to accompany detectives to the police station, where he was subsequently interviewed.

As a result of this investigation, Detective Nathan Nickel filed charges of Robbery(2 Counts, F-1), Criminal Conspiracy(to commit Robbery, F-1) and Violation of the Uniform Firearms Act(2 Counts--Persons not to possess, use manufacture, control, sell or transfer Firearms and Firearms not to be carried without a license, F-2 & F-3) before Magisterial District Judge Kelly Ballentine on May 21st. Then as the investigation continued, on June 1st Detective Nickel filed charges of Criminal Conspiracy(to deliver a controlled substance—Cocaine) against both Jerry James and Ray Bradshaw, these charges also being filed before Magisterial District Judge Ballentine.

Note: All persons charged with criminal offenses are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

(end of release)