For Immediate Release
July 5, 2012

Missing and Endangered Person - Foul Play Suspected

Name of Missing Person:
Kevin Richard Lawya, DOB: 06-01-56, resides at 2551 15th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida. His Florida Drivers License Photo is attached.

On Friday June 29, 2012, Kevin Richard Lawya, the Controller for Point Brittany Condos, failed to show up for work at 8:30 a.m., which was unusual for him. A fellow employee called Lawya’s phone during the day, but never received a response.

Later in the afternoon, the same employee drove to Lawya’s home. He was not there and his truck was also gone, so the employee contacted the St. Petersburg Police Department.

Officers found no signs of forced entry to the home or any other indications of foul play. Officers also talked to Lawya’s neighbors, one of whom had seen his truck at the house the night before and remembered hearing activity at the home the night before, too.

On Monday July 2, 2012, Lawya again did not show up for work. The same employee went to Lawya’s home again and found that neither he nor his truck.

The employee used a key to enter the house, but found nothing amiss inside of the residence. Lawya’s dog was inside the house.

Afterward, the employee drove to the St. Petersburg Police Station and told officers it was unusual for Lawya to be missing. The employee was becoming concerned for his safety.

Officers checked Lawya’s home again and decided to broadcast a Law Enforcement BOLO for Lawya and his truck, a 2009 Toyota Tacoma.

On Wednesday July 4, 2012 at about 1:48 p.m., a police officer located the Toyota Tacoma abandoned in the 800 block of Union Street South, which is a dead-end street. The truck was parked near a Florida Department of Transportation fence for I-275.

Officers discovered evidence of foul play at the truck and called for detectives and a forensic team to process the truck.

Investigators are asking for anyone with information about Kevin Lawya to call the St. Petersburg Police Department’s Communication Center at 727-893-7780. Anonymous tipsters can use our Tip Line at 727-892-5000 or Text a Tip at 727-420-8911.

Information by Bill Proffitt on Thursday July 5, 2012 at 10:45 a.m.

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