2nd Update re. Shooting Incident in the 4300 of 7th Avenue North

The deceased victim from last night’s shooting has been identified as Mackenzie Galen McConnell, W/M, DOB 06/21/87 last known address of 1701 Woodmarker Court in Brandon. Next of kin have been notified.

Information released by Mike Puetz, michael.puetz@stpete.org, 727-420-6448

Deceased Victim: 26 year old w/m (name withheld pending notification of next of kin)

Wounded Victim: Alexander Usher, W/M, DOB of 05/18/82, home address of 4324 7th Avenue North, St. Petersburg

Wounded Victim: David A. Oard, W/M, DOB of 03/26/59, home address of 4321 7th Avenue North, St. Petersburg

Arrested Suspect: Jason Michael Faber, W/M, 07/17/1979, home address of 4314 7th Avenue North

Case Synopsis:

We received initial calls of a shooting in the 4300 block of 7th Avenue North at about 10:04 p.m. last night.

Upon arrival officers found two gunshot victims, one of them being Alexander Usher and the other being the yet unidentified victim, lying in the street outside a vehicle.

A 3rd victim, David Oard, had been wounded while inside his nearby residence.

All three men were taken to the hospital. Oard was treated for a minor grazing wound to the head while Usher, who suffered a gunshot wound to the lower body, appears to be in fair condition at this time. The
unidentified victim, who had been found lying in the street with Usher, suffered a wound to the upper body and was later pronounced dead at Bayfront Hospital at 12:27 a.m. this morning.

Further investigation revealed that Usher and the unidentified victim were seated in a parked vehicle in the 4300 block of 7th Avenue North when they were approached by the suspect Jason Faber who produced a semi-automatic handgun and, without any obvious provocation, began firing multiple rounds into the car striking the two men. During the shooting a stray rounds apparently entered Oard’s home at 4321 7th Avenue North resulting in his head wound.

After the shooting Faber, who resides near the shooting scene, got into his 2004 Silver Mazda RX-8 and fled the area with the handgun.

Officers later learned from Faber’s wife that he served in the military, suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and was apparently of the belief that individuals residing at 4324 7th Avenue North (Alexander Usher’s residence) were dealing drugs. She did not know why her husband had committed the shooting and there did not appear to be any provocation prior to it taking place.

At about 11:27 p.m. officers located Faber in his car in the area of Gandy Blvd North and 4th Street. When they attempted to stop him he began to flee and a pursuit was authorized which continued south on Dr. M.L. King Jr. Street North and then west on 38th Avenue North.

As Faber started to drive up on to the north bound on-ramp of I-275, one police cruiser struck Faber’s car disabling it. As officers ran up to the vehicle, Faber appeared to be trying to reach for a handgun, but he was restrained by officers before he could do so. The handgun believed to have been used in the shooting was recovered from inside the car.

Neither Faber nor the officers involved in the arrest suffered any physical injuries, but Faber was taken to the hospital to be medically cleared before being brought to the station for an interview with detectives.

Faber will be charged with 1st degree murder, attempted 1st degree murder and other additional charges are pending.

I will release the name of the decease victim once family has been contacted.

Information released by Mike Puetz, michael.puetz@stpete.org