Update re. Third Suspect Arrested in 2012 Home Invasion Homicide

Arrested Suspect: Christopher Eugene Roberson, DOB 03/10/1982 of 1649 27th Avenue South, St. Petersburg.

This afternoon detectives arrested Roberson on a 1st degree murder warrant relating to the home invasion/homicide of Richard Lamar Shaw at 7014 Orpine Drive North on June 19, 2012.

Roberson was arrested without incident at his residence at 1649 27th Avenue South.

Homicide detectives report that although he had been a suspect in the case for some time, new information was presented in the case that led to Roberson's arrest although those detail cannot be released at this time.

Two other co-defendants have already been charged in the case. Justin Maurice Hart, DOB 10/13/1988, was arrested on October 4th 2012 and Charles C. Stone, DOB 05/11/84, was charged in the case on August 10th 2012. A fourth unidentified suspect remains at large.

On June 19, 2012 at about 4:47 a.m., officers responded to 7014 Orpine Drive North where they learned the homeowner, Richard Shaw, had been shot during a home invasion robbery. Investigators determined that four suspects, whose images had been captured on a home surveillance camera, had forced entry into the residence, yelling “Police, Police, Police” and then shot Shaw when he came out from his bedroom to confront them.

Shaw was transported to Northside Hospital where he was pronounced dead from a single gunshot wound to the upper body. Shaw’s teenage son was home at time, but not injured.

Earlier that morning a similar home invasion took place at 5800 1st Avenue North. The victim in that case, Gregg M. Gordon, 51, and his wife, Rebecca, told officers they were asleep in bed when several armed suspects forced entry into their home, yelling “Police, Police, Police.”

Once inside, the armed suspects demanding cash and jewelry.
One of the suspects punched Gordon several times and struck him in the head with an unknown object as they searched through the home before leaving the residence with several items.

The individuals arrested so far in the murder of Richard Shaw have not been charged in the Gordon case, but are considered suspects.

The investigation is still ongoing in the attempt to identify the fourth and final suspect in Shaw’s murder.

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