Update re. Shooting Investigation

The victim in this afternoon's shooting has been identified as Troy Earl Smith Jr, DOB 09/23/1989 of 985 Melrose Ave South, St. Petersburg.

Detectives believe at this time that Smith's shooting was accidentally self inflicted. According to a witness and video obtained from local businesses it appears that Smith was riding his bike on 18th Avenue South near 14th Street when a handgun he was carrying in his jacket pocket discharged wounding him in the chest. The gun was recovered and had been discharged through his clothing.

Previous release

We are currently investigating a shooting death which occurred on 18th Avenue South just east of 16 Street. At about 1313 hours a lone male subject was discovered lying on the ground in that area suffering from a gunshot wound to the upper body. He was transported to Bayfront Hospital where he was subsequently pronounced deceased. The victim has not been identified as yet. Detectives are on the scene and the investigation is ongoing.

Yolanda Fernandez