Update: Homicide at 5th Avenue South and 6th Street South

Victim: Scott R. Franklin, W/M, 12/19/1974
Arrested: Malcolm J. DiPina, B/M, 7/1/1993

On Saturday, April 30, 2016, Malcolm DiPina, who lives in Sarasota, and several friends were traveling in two separate vehicles through St. Petersburg. The two vehicles were traveling northbound on 4th Street South just after midnight when Scott Franklin, who was also operating a vehicle, pulled next to them. Franklin and the occupants of DiPina's vehicle became involved in a verbal altercation due to one of the vehicles cutting off the other.

The vehicles continued west and then turned northbound onto 6th Street South. Franklin stopped his vehicle alongside of DiPina's car at the red light at 5th Avenue South. The incident escalated at this location and DiPina shot Franklin. DiPina and his friends fled the scene the night this occurred, but returned later during the day to speak to the investigating detectives of the St. Petersburg Police Department.

DiPina was arrested and charged with Manslaughter and booked into the Pinellas County Jail.

******* Previously Released *******

Homicide at 5th Avenue South and 6th Street

On April 30, 2016, at 12:25 a.m., Scott R. Franklin, W/M, 12/19/1974, was reportedly on his way home from work and was driving in the area of 6th Avenue South and 5th Street South. Video surveillance footage appears to capture the victim's vehicle being followed by at least two or three other vehicles. The group of
vehicles come to a stop just short of the intersection.

Witnesses reported hearing gunshots and observe someone leaning out the passenger side of one of the suspect vehicles. The suspect vehicles then flee northbound on 6th Street South.

Major Crimes Unit detectives responded to the scene and are currently investigating the homicide.

Anyone with information on this matter is asked to call the St. Petersburg Police Department at 727-893-7780.

St. Petersburg Police Department report # 2016-020135.