Update: Shooting at Bay Vista Park

Major Crimes Unit detectives are currently investigating an attempted homicide that occurred at 7000 4th Street South, Bay Vista Park, at 3:14 a.m. this morning.

The investigation thus far has revealed that a Joetavius Deon Whitson, b/m, 10/31/1991, was shot by a suspect described as a black man while a second black man stood by. While this shooting was taking place, Willie Day Brown, b/m, 1/11/1987, drove into the park in a car and immediately began taking on gunfire from the suspects. Brown was struck by gunfire and fled the park in the car he was driving. Brown drove himself to Bayfront Health St. Petersburg Hospital where he was treated for non-life threatening injuries.

When officers arrived at Bay Vista Park, they located Whitson. Whitson was transported to Bayfront Health St. Petersburg Hospital where he underwent surgery. Whitson’s condition is critical, but stable. The motive for the shooting is unclear at this time. Detectives will be interviewing Whitson when he is able to speak.

There are no identifiable suspects or witnesses at this time. The investigation is ongoing.

Report number 2016-038977.

***** PREVIOUSLY RELEASED *****

Shooting Update

Both still alive—ages 25 and 29.
Police are investigating a shooting involving two men. One man drove himself to Bayfront Health hospital with a gunshot wound at 3:18 a.m. The second victim, also a man, was found at Bay Vista Park on Pinellas Point Dr. S., also was shot.

Major Crimes detectives are investigating. No other information is available.