



St. Petersburg Police News Release



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Media Relations Office

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Brinks Cold Case Press Release

Here is the information we released at today's press conference.

Brinks is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in a 35-year-old cold case recently re-opened by the St. Petersburg Police Department's new Cold Case Squad.

On January 23, 1982, two men dressed as "Miami Elevator" repairmen and pretended to be working on the elevators at Robinson's Department store at Tyrone Square Mall.

A Brinks armored truck was scheduled to make a pick up. Shortly after 3 p.m., as the Brinks employee was opening the door to leave the store with a deposit bag, the two men confronted the Brinks worker, Joseph Warner, and shot him once.

Warner, of Tampa, died from the gunshot wound. He was a 22 year military veteran who had worked for Brinks for seven years. Warner left behind a wife and five school-aged boys.

The getaway van, stolen from the Orlando area, was dumped at the Jungle Prada Boat Ramp, where the suspects boarded a rented boat. A fraudulent Canadian license was used to rent the boat. Ironically, they used the identity of a Canadian beat cop.

When they realized the deposit bag contained no cash ---only non-negotiable checks---they threw it overboard near Madeira Beach Elementary. Then, they abandoned the boat near the Clearwater Causeway.

This case received widespread attention and was profiled on the show "America's Most Wanted". The suspects were described as two white men, one in his late 20's and one in his 40's (50's and 70's now). One witness described them as "handsome". While investigators pursued several suspects over the years, none panned out.

The St. Petersburg Police Cold Case Squad recently re-opened the case, and DNA developments have moved the case forward significantly.

Brinks has already helped with advancing this investigation, and now it is going to help even more by offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a person or persons in the murder of Joseph Warner.

Anyone with information please call 893-7780 or text SPPD + tip to TIP411.

Suspect # 1

White male

30-40 years old

160-170lbs (described by several witnesses as more "portly" than the other and older)

Sunglasses

Collar length (wind swept) light brown hair Medium build Possibly olive complexion Mustache (unshaven beard) Blue gray long sleeve shirt, jeans, old sneakers

Suspect # 2

White male (described by one witness as very good looking) Late 20's 140-150lbs Sunglasses Shoulder length, dirty blonde hair Slender build Fair complexion, no facial hair Flannel shirt, jeans, old sneakers