



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

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11/23/2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST DEGREE MURDER CHARGES REFILED IN 2011 SHOOTING DEATH

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Terry D. Morrison, 53, of Springfield, Missouri has been charged today with murder in the first degree and armed criminal action. These charges arise from the shooting death of Pristina Tyner on September 23, of 2011. The defendant faces the potential of life imprisonment without parole if convicted. Associate Circuit Judge J. Ronald Carrier has ordered Mr. Morrison held without bond.

This case was originally charged in September of 2011 but was not bound over for trial after a preliminary hearing in which a witness gave ambiguous testimony. The refiling of charges today was made possible by the continued investigative efforts of the Springfield Police Department. The witness who testified at the original preliminary hearing has since stated her equivocation at the initial preliminary hearing was due to fear for her family's wellbeing, not to any difficulty recognizing Morrison as the man she saw pull a gun on Ms. Tyner the night she was killed. In addition, two other eyewitnesses, both of whom were located subsequent to the initial preliminary hearing have described how they drove with Morrison to the motel at the time of the murder. These witnesses have stated that after arriving at the motel with Morrison, they saw him get out of the car, go to the second floor of the motel, heard a "pop" or a "pow pow," and then saw Morrison return to the car with a gun.

Mr. Patterson cautions that the charges contained in the felony complaint are merely allegations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

Copies of the felony complaint and probable statement filed in this case are attached to this release. The Missouri Supreme Court ethics rules prohibit comments

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Morrison,

on the facts or investigation of this case beyond those contained in the felony complaint and probable cause statement that are part of the public record.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Joshua Harrel. It is being investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Scott Hill is the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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DAN PATTERSON
Prosecuting Attorney of the County of
Greene, State of Missouri, by



Electronically Signed;

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SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

FELONY PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT



CIRCUIT CLERK
GREENE COUNTY

Date: 11/17/2016 Case #: 11-41181

I, SCOTT HILL, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law state as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that TERRY DWAIN MORRISON, Black/Male, DOB 12/03/1962, committed one or more criminal offenses.
2. The following crime(s) happened on 2011/09/23 23:06 - 2011/09/23 23:06 at 2611 N GLENSTONE AVE Room 212 in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.
3. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

I learned the following information from reports 11-40829, 11-41181 and further follow-up investigation:

On 09/21/11, Officer K. Castaneda was conducting surveillance on 603 W. Mount Vernon, for reported drug sales. Officer Castaneda observed two white females walk up to the address, later identified as Pristina Tyner, Marye Bozeman. Officer Castaneda observed a black male, identified as Victor Smith, conduct a hand to hand drug transaction with Bozeman. Tyner and Bozeman left in a vehicle and were contacted by Officer Boehmer on a traffic stop. Drugs were recovered on the traffic stop. Tyner was questioned post Miranda and admitted to being at 603 W. Mount Vernon with Bozeman. Tyner confirmed Bozeman purchased methamphetamine from the location.

Officer S. Boehmer went to 603 W. Mount Vernon and contacted Smith. Smith was arrested for distributing a controlled substance near a school. Smith was in possession of 14 individually wrapped baggies that contained white crystals.

On 09/23/11, at approximately 11:06 PM, Springfield Police Officers were dispatched to 2611 N. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri (Homestay Inn, room #212) in reference to a possible gunshot heard in the area. The female 911 caller said a black male came to the motel with a gun. As Officer S. Hill was arriving on scene, dispatch notified him that someone was shot. Officer Hill located a female near a stairwell at the hotel, lying on the ground and bleeding from her head. The female could not respond to questions. The female was later identified as Pristina Tyner. Tyner was transported to Mercy Hospital with life threatening injuries. No suspects were contacted on scene.

Several witnesses were interviewed, including a female, identified as Christine Casper. Detective Kevin Shipley interviewed Casper who confirmed she had been staying in room #212 with Tyner. Casper advised they were expecting someone to visit them in the motel room. Casper said a black male knocked on the door and Tyner opened the door. Whenever the male entered the room, he pulled out a handgun from the jacket he was wearing and pointed it at Tyner. Casper reported Tyner ran towards her, and the black male subject walked towards them. Casper stated she grabbed the male by the arm/hand, and he pushed Casper out of the way. Casper reported Tyner then ran out of the room, and the black male

followed behind her. Casper closed and locked the door, and moments later Casper heard a gunshot. Casper then called 911.

Casper described the suspect as a black male, approximately 6'4-6'5" tall, stocky build, wearing a black stocking cap, dark blue or black zip-up style jacket, black gloves, dark colored jeans, black sneakers, and glasses. Casper also recognized the suspect as someone she had contact with approximately 6-9 months ago.

During a search of room #212, officers located a piece of paper inside the room with the telephone numbers 655-5664 and 315-1711 written on the paper. Police reports showed the phone number 655-5664 belonged to Terry Morrison, and records showed the phone number 315-1711 belonged to Victor Smith. Police records showed that Morrison was a black male, 6'2" tall and weighing 210 pounds. Police records showed that Smith was a black male, 5'4" tall and weighing 160 pounds. Due to the fact that Morrison's physical description resembled the suspect's description, Casper was shown a photographic lineup that included Morrison's picture. Casper identified Morrison as the person who came to room #212 and pointed the gun at Tyner.

Detective T. Vienhage obtained video surveillance from hotel management from the Homestay Inn. The video showed a white four door car arrive on 09/23/11 at 10:56 PM. Detective Vienhage believed the make of the vehicle was an Oldsmobile. The video showed a dark skinned male subject who appeared to be tall in stature, exit the passenger side of the car and walked upstairs towards room #212. A short time later, the video showed a person running downstairs with the male subject running closely behind. The male then ran towards the white vehicle and entered the passenger's side. The vehicle drove eastbound and drove over a large curb.

Detective Vienhage located a police report that showed Victor Smith owned a white '96 Oldsmobile four door car with MO license HD3-T5D. The Missouri Department of Revenue showed the license plate was registered to a '96 Oldsmobile sedan to Nora and Victor Smith.

On 09/25/11, Detective Vienhage was notified that Tyner was deceased. An autopsy was performed on Tyner and her cause of death was intracranial hemorrhage with cerebral edema secondary to gunshot wound to the head.

On 09/24/11 and 09/25/11, the white Oldsmobile vehicle was observed at Victor Smith's residence, located at 603 W. Mount Vernon. On 09/26/11, a search warrant was executed at 603 W. Mount Vernon. The vehicle at the residence matched the video Detective Vienhage observed on video surveillance. Officers observed scrape marks on the undercarriage of Smith's vehicle.

Smith was arrested on 09/26/11 and was interviewed post Miranda by Detective Vienhage. Smith confirmed he knew Tyner and they went out a couple times. Smith denied driving his vehicle to the Homestay Inn on 09/23/11. Smith said he was drinking a bottle of Hennessey with "D-BO" (Darryle Dancy) and Terry Morrison. Smith's cell phone was seized as evidence.

On 09/26/11, a search warrant was executed at Smith's residence. Officers located and searched Smith's cell phone. Detective Vienhage located a text message sent from Morrison's phone to Smith on 09/23/11 at 7:44:26 PM hours said, "U got this bitch at motel call me and u got other plan u cant keep pussy before freedom".

Morrison was arrested on 09/27/11 and was interviewed post Miranda by Detective Vienhage. Morrison confirmed he knew Tyner and was supposed to meet her at the Homestay Inn between 7-8 PM on 09/23/11. Morrison said he did not go to the hotel. Morrison denied he was in Smith's vehicle the

evening of 09/23/11 and denied shooting Tyner. Morrison initially said he was with his girlfriend, Denise Spurgeon, on 09/23/11 from about 8:30 PM until the morning of 09/24/11. Morrison later changed his statement and said Spurgeon picked him up from his residence (614 W. Mount Vernon #A) on 09/23/11 at about 10:45 PM.

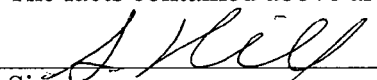
Spurgeon was interviewed and she confirmed picking Morrison up at his residence on 09/23/11, sometime around 11:30 PM. Video surveillance was obtained from a Kum and Go, located at 2404 E. Sunshine for 09/23/11. At 11:40 PM, Spurgeon and Morrison arrive in Spurgeon's vehicle. Morrison went into the store and they left at 11:43 PM.

During this investigation, information was received from various sources that a subject named "D-Bo" (AKA Darryle Dancy) was involved in this homicide. An analysis of Pristina Tyner's cellular telephone showed she received a phone call from the phone number 908-333-0868 on 09/23/11 at 10:59 PM. This phone call was received approximately 2-3 minutes prior to Tyner being shot. Police records and investigation revealed this number belonged to Darryle Dancy.

The investigation revealed two other males were in the backseat of Smith's vehicle at the Homestay Inn. The males were identified as Darryle Dancy and Keith Like. Dancy and Like were later interviewed separately by Detective Vienhage. Dancy and Like confirmed they were at Smith's residence on 09/23/11. Both admitted they left the residence with Smith and Morrison to get more alcohol. Both confirmed Smith was driving the vehicle and Morrison was the front passenger. Both confirmed Smith drove to the Homestay Inn and Morrison used Dancy's phone to call someone to tell them he was here. Both confirmed Morrison exited the vehicle and walked up steps towards a hotel room. Dancy saw a female run out of the room and yell, "He's got a gun". Dancy observed Morrison reach over a banister and fire a gun. Like said Morrison came to the car and was holding a gun. Both stated Smith drove over a curb as they were leaving the lot. Dancy said Smith drove to a dumpster near some apartment complexes off Kearney and placed his coat and gloves in the dumpster.

Detective Scott Hill later obtained prison recorded jail calls for Terry Morrison from the Department of Corrections. On 06/14/16, Morrison called and spoke with Spurgeon on the phone. Morrison started talking about the "mother fucking bitch" got busted coming from "Shorty's house". Morrison said he gets a fucking phone call and he and Shorty listened to the fucking voicemail about 15-20 times. Morrison said the "dude" on the other end of the call told him and Smith that his girl is telling on them all. Morrison said he saw the girl get busted down the street from Smith's house. Morrison told Smith he's about to go to jail because the bitch leaves his house and she's telling on him. Spurgeon asked Morrison if that's why they went over to the motel. Morrison denied going to the motel. Spurgeon told Morrison she knows what he told her whenever he got out after 15 months (prison). Morrison said he knows all about that and he's not a snitch, he's not going to tell on nobody. Morrison said he's going to take his shit to the grave.

The facts contained above are true.

	1472	Detective
Signature	DSN	Title