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SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
CRIMINAL DIVISION

UNITED STATES

VS.

DEON A. THOMAS

On Sunday, December 8, 2013, at approximately 2212 hours, members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Fifth District responded to the intersection of North Capitol Street and Florida Avenue, Northeast, for an unconscious person. Once on the scene the officers observed a white female with a long white coat administering chest compressions to a black male on the northwest side of North Capitol Street and Florida Avenue. This black male was later identified as John Thomas Tillman. Mr. Tillman was transported by District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services to Washington Hospital Center's Med Star Unit. All life saving efforts failed and Mr. Tillman (hereafter referred to as the decedent) was pronounced dead by Dr. Trankiem at 2235 hours. The remains of the decedent were transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for the District of Columbia pending an autopsy.

Members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Branch responded to the location and an investigation was initiated. Detectives observed that the decedent had a laceration on the right side neck area of his body. A large amount of blood was observed around this injury.

Members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Branch identified, located and interviewed a witness (hereafter referred to as W-1) who provided the following information. W-1 stated that IT was standing approximately 80 feet from the decedent when IT heard an unknown person yell "hey." W-1 looked toward the sound and observed the suspect strike the decedent one time in the head. The decedent fell to the ground and did not get back up. After striking the decedent, the suspect ran east bound on Q Street, Northeast. W-1 stated that the suspect did not go into any of the decedent's pockets. W-1 demonstrated how the suspect hit the decedent. This punch was demonstrated as a wide arching swing.

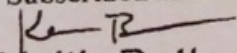
W-1 provided a description of D-1 as a black male, 6'0" - 6'1" in height, 160 pounds, 40-55 years old but believes that D-1 was younger than 50. In addition, the suspect was described as wearing a long black jacket with fur around the hood and a black skull cap.

It should be noted that W-1 stated that IT has bad vision and that IT was in need of eye glasses.

On Sunday, December 8, 2013, members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Fifth District responded to the Emory House Homeless Shelter located at 1725 Lincoln Road, Northeast, for the report of a subject acting irrational and bleeding from the hands. Once on the scene the officers observed District of Columbia Fire and EMS Personnel escorting a black male into the ambulance. This black male was later identified by a Washington D.C. driver's license as Deon Anthony Thomas (hereafter referred to as D-1). The officers observed blood on D-1's hands and clothing.

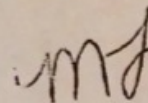
The events and acts described above occurred primarily in the District of Columbia and were committed as described by defendant(s) listed in the case caption.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 10th day of December 2013 (date)

  
Keith Batton

D2-1364

VCB



Police Officer

Badge

District

Deputy Clerk



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According to the officers D-1 was acting irrational and stated that he did not know what happened to his hands. D-1 stated that he fights a guy that keeps attacking him in his dreams. D-1 then began struggling with the Fire Department personnel and the officers in the ambulance. The officers handcuffed D-1 to the stretcher for safety reasons. While en-route to the hospital the officers asked D-1 when he got cut and he stated that he did not know. D-1 also stated "I think I got him". When asked who, D-1 stated "the guy I fight in my dreams. He got me and I got him."

Once at Washington Hospital Center, D-1 was moved to a hospital bed by members of the Metropolitan Police Department and Special Police Officers working for Washington Hospital Center. As D-1 was being moved a black and gray Smith and Wesson folding knife fell out of D-1 back pocket. The knife had an approximately three inch blade and had apparent fresh blood on the blade of the knife.

A visual inspection of D-1's clothing revealed that D-1 was wearing a green colored jacket that had apparent blood on the right side of the jacket as well as apparent blood on the zipper area of the jacket and the left side breast area. D-1 was wearing a sports jersey with the number seven on the front. This jersey had lettering on the front that appeared to be torn. In addition, a large amount of apparent blood was observed on the front of the jersey. D-1 was wearing a pair of black jeans that had apparent blood on the front. Underneath of these black jeans D-1 was wearing a pair of long underwear that also had apparent blood stains. D-1 was wearing a pair of brown boots that had apparent blood stains on the front and tops of both boots. Apparent blood stains are also observed on a least one of D-1's socks. Also recovered from D-1 was a black skull cap.

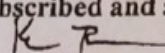
Dr. Nikki Mourtzinis conducted the autopsy on the decedent. Dr. Mourtzinis concluded that the decedent suffered a severe laceration to his carotid artery, and that based on that injury, the amount of blood loss would be significant and that the person who stabbed the decedent could have a large amount of blood on them.

Detectives have learned that D-1 lived at Emery House located at 1725 Lincoln Road, Northeast and last checked into Emery House on December 8, 2013, at 2140 hours. Members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Branch identified, located and interviewed a witness (hereafter referred to as W-2) who provided said that at approximately 2250 hours, D-1 attempted to reenter Emery House but was stopped by a staff member who observed blood on D-1's hand or hands. D-1 stated that he didn't want to hurt anybody.

W-2 stated that IT believed that D-1 was under the influence of PCP. Detectives have learned that Emery House is a homeless shelter and that the residents are not required to sign in or out of the residence. The distance from Emery House to the location of the homicide is approximately .2 miles.

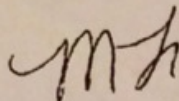
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Detectives have checked with the District of Columbia 911 system to determine if any other calls for assistance have been received that would account for the large amount of blood on D-1's clothing. Only one call for service was received that would account for the large amount of blood on D-1's clothing, and that is for the decedent's murder.

On Monday, December 09, 2013, members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Branch conducted an interview with D-1. Prior to the interview, D-1 was advised as to the warning as to his rights and D-1 chose to waive these rights. In response to routine booking questions, D-1 said he was 5'11" and 180 lbs. D-1 is also 37 years old.

D-1 states that he watched the second half of the Washington Redskins game prior to going for a walk. According to D-1 he walked to U Street in the Columbia Heights neighborhood prior to walking back. D-1 states that he thought he was dreaming when a man walked up to him and stated "I got you." D-1 stated that he was trying to run but that the man prevented him from running away. The man said that he was going to "bag me" according to D-1. D-1 believes that this altercation occurred at a bus stop located at the CVS store on U Street. D-1 states that the man grabbed his shoulder, but D-1 was able to shove the man off. D-1 states that he started running and hitting the guy in the side. The man was laughing according to D-1. Once D-1 got to Lincoln Road he states that he began thinking "was that real?"

D-1 stated that the man he was fighting was short and was wearing glasses and a hat. The man grabbed D-1's hand and D-1's hand started hurting. According to D-1, additional people were saying "don't let him get away."

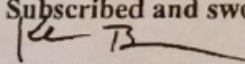
D-1 states that he uses a knife for work. D-1 was asked if this was the knife that he had on him tonight and D-1 stated that it was the same knife. D-1 described the knife as a black and gray Smith and Wesson folding knife. This is consistent with the knife recovered from D-1.

D-1 states that he suffers from post traumatic stress disorder. In addition, D-1 states that "I hope I didn't do nothing stupid but tonight, I don't know." D-1 states that he had several alcoholic beverages during the day and did not use PCP. When asked if he had taken out his knife to get the man off of him, D-1 stated "I probably did, I don't remember."

D-1 was placed under arrest and processed for the homicide of John Tillman.

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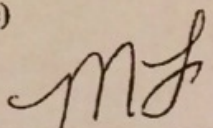
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