



St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



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For Immediate Release

September 7, 2011

Update re. Homicide at the Inn on the Hill Hotel

Victim: Howard Grady Floyd, W/M, DOB 05/17/57, resides in Room #1 at the Inn on the Hill

Efforts to locate next-of-kin for Mr. Floyd have so far been unsuccessful, but will continue.

Detectives have released additional details regarding the murder.

They advised that Floyd and the arrested suspect John Browning were acquaintances and that Floyd had given him money in the past. In fact Floyd had given him money earlier on the day of the murder.

According to Browning he used that money to purchase crack cocaine and returned to the hotel to ask for more money from the Floyd.

Browning stated then when Floyd refused, he became incensed and obtained a kitchen knife from inside the room and used it to stab Floyd multiple times in the chest. He then took money from the hotel register and fled from the victim's room to purchase more drugs.

Information Released by Mike Puetz

Media Release of 09/07/11 at 1:00 a.m.

Date / Time of Release: 9/07/11 @ 0100 Hours

Incident: Homicide

Location: 275 34th Street South, #1

Date / Time of Incident: 9/05/11 @ 2200 Hours

Victim(s): N/A

Arrested(s): John G. Browning W/M, 5/29/88
LKA 14840 49th Street North (Safe Harbor)
Clearwater, FL 33762

Charges: 1st Degree Murder

Brief Description of Incident:

On 9/05/11 @ approximately 2200 hours, the victim, who was the manager at 275 34th Street South (Inn On The Hill), was



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stabbed multiple times in his upper body, inside his apartment.

Officers responded to the victim's apartment on 9/06/11 at approximately 0910 hours, in reference to a check on welfare and located the victim who was pronounced dead at the scene by medical personnel.

Homicide detectives received information the victim was last seen with the above suspect, John Browning, at approximately 2000 hours on 9/05/11. A witness also observed Browning leaving the area of the motel with a cut on his hand and blood on his clothing.

Detectives located Browning and questioned him in regard to the victim's death and he confessed to killing the victim in a drug induced rage. After killing the victim, Browning stated he took money from victim.

Browning directed detectives to the knife and clothing he wore during the murder. Browning was charged with 1st degree murder.

The next of kin has not been notified and the victim's name will not be released to the general public at this time.
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