



ALLEGHENY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF WILLIAM P. MULLEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 4, 2017

Contact: Charles Rodriguez,
Commander
P - 412.350.4711
P - 412.350.4714 (24 Hours)

PENN HILLS HOMICIDE SUSPECT CAPTURED WHILE HIDING IN ATTIC

PITTSBURGH, PA – Sheriff William P. Mullen announces the apprehension of Steven L. Sparrow, 26 years old of Verona. Allegheny County Police's Homicide Division had sought Sparrow for the execution-style murder of Andre Williams on September 2, 2017. Authorities believe that Sparrow murdered Williams during an impending drug deal.

Shortly after the incident, police were granted a search warrant for a Facebook account believed to be Sparrow's. Among the vast amount of information yielded by this warrant, authorities were able to locate a private message, which the user states "i pop dat (expletive) rite in his (expletive) face." Due to this information, Allegheny County Police charged Sparrow with Criminal Homicide, Robbery and Persons Not to Possess, Use, Manufacture, Control, Sell or Transfer of Firearms. A warrant for his arrest was issued on September 26th.

Yesterday morning, sheriff's deputies gathered information that witnesses observed Sparrow in the City of Duquesne earlier in the week. Over the last 24 hours, deputies had searched numerous addresses where they believed Sparrow to be hiding out.

This morning, deputies learned that Sparrow was staying with a female in the 2300 block of Bridge Street in McKeesport. Deputies went to the address around 10:30 this morning and announced themselves numerous times, without any response. However, they noticed and heard movement of occupants in the house, while announcing themselves. Deputies, along with McKeesport Police Department, finally made entry into the home and searched for tenants to no avail. However, knowing that there was movement in the house prior to making entry, deputies continued their search, which was drawn to an attic entryway. Without any way to access the crawlspace in the ceiling, authorities contacted the McKeesport Fire Department for their assistance.

The McKeesport Fire Department was able to provide deputies with the necessary tools to locate the fugitive and access the entry of the attic. Eventually, pepper spray was used in an effort to persuade the individual out of the attic. After about 45 minutes of attempted negotiations, Sparrow exited the attic and surrendered to deputies.

After the surrender of Sparrow, the homeowner, J'qua Paylor, 23 years old arrived at the home. Paylor had an outstanding warrant for Terroristic Threats, Intimidation of Witnesses or Victims and Harassment out of Judge Schricker's Office in Turtle Creek. She was taken into custody, as well and

Allegheny County Sheriff's Office

William P. Mullen, Sheriff

436 Grant Street - Courthouse, Room 111 - Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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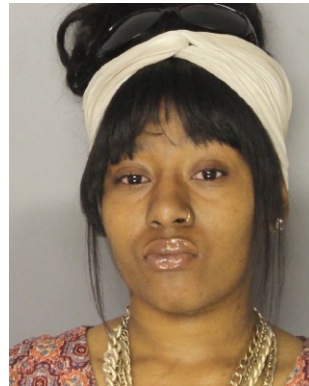
transported to the magistrate's office, where she will be arraigned on the aforementioned charges.

Sparrow was brought to the Allegheny County Police's Homicide Unit, where he was transferred to their custody based on the homicide incident.

Sheriff Mullen would like to thank the McKeesport Police and Fire Departments for their amazing support and teamwork over the course of the investigation for Sparrow.



Steven Sparrow



J'qua Paylor

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