UPDATE - Murder suspect kills himself

Posted by TBN_News On 05/04/2015

UPDATE FROM THE CALVERT COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE - 3 p.m. May 4

On May 2 at approximately 4:42 p.m. members of the Calvert County Sheriff’s Office Patrol Bureau responded to a house on Sycamore Road, Lusby for a report of an unconscious male.

Upon arrival units discovered a male, later identified as Levi Buck, 48 year old male. It became apparent that Buck was suffering from a gunshot wound to the head. CPR was performed; however after another assessment it was determined that Buck’s injuries were incompatible with life and he was pronounced dead on the scene.

Due to the nature of the crime Calvert Investigations Bureau (CIB) assumed the investigation into the death of Levi Buck.

During the investigation numerous witnesses were interviewed and were cooperating with the investigation. Shortly after assuming the investigation CIB detectives developed a person of interest in the case. Robert Scott Slaughter, 43 of Mechanicsville was sought for questioning by the detectives.

A multi-jurisdictional broadcast was conducted containing description of Slaughter and his vehicle, a 2006 red Ford Mustang GT. Officers from Calvert County Sheriff’s Office, St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office, Charles County Sheriff’s Office and Maryland State Police were attempting to locate Slaughter on the roadways, as well as at various places Slaughter was known to frequent. The Calvert County State’s Attorney’s Office assigned Assistant State’s Attorney Andrew Rappaport to the case in effort to provide support to detectives during the investigation.

The Calvert County Sheriff’s Office CIB deployed numerous detectives throughout the Southern Maryland region in an attempt to apprehend Slaughter, as he was considered armed and dangerous following the shooting on Sycamore Road.

On Saturday, May 2 at approximately 8:49 p.m. Det. Matt Mudd, of the Criminal Investigations Bureau, made contact with Slaughter via telephone and spoke with Slaughter for approximately five minutes.

Slaughter indicated to Det. M. Mudd that he was in Huntingtown and was coming to the Calvert County Sheriff’s Office in order to speak with detectives regarding the incident on Sycamore Road.

Slaughter never came to the Sheriff’s Officer and that was the last conversation Slaughter had with anyone known to investigators.

Prior to speaking with Mudd on the phone, Slaughter had a brief conversation with his wife and exchanged a limited number of text messages throughout the evening. Based on the contents of Slaughter’s messages it was believed that he may have been considering suicide.

Units from the Calvert County Sheriff’s Office, St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office and Charles County Sheriff’s Office continued to follow-up leads, canvass southern Maryland roadways and neighborhoods and work with cell phone providers in order to locate Slaughter.

The efforts continued from the time of the call until May 3 at approximately 5:30 a.m. However, Slaughter was not located.

On May 3 at 11:30 a.m. CIB Detectives were deployed to the White Sands neighborhood and canvassed the area in search of additional witnesses to the shooting.

Additional interviews, with witnesses who were already identified, were also conducted by detectives.

The search for Slaughter resumed and continued until the evening hours on Sunday May 3.

On Monday, May 4 at approximately 7:00 a.m. an officer with the St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office observed Slaughter’s vehicle in the rear parking lot of Mount Zion Church in Mechanicsville.

Slaughter was observed in the front seat and was not moving. With assistance from the St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office Emergency Services Team the vehicle was secured and entry was gained.

Detectives from CIB responded to the scene and assisted the St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office with scene processing.

Robert Scott Slaughter was found in the driver’s seat suffering from a single gunshot wound to the head. Slaughter was pronounced dead on the scene. Investigation revealed that Slaughter’s injury was self-inflicted. A small caliber rifle was located in Slaughters right hand.

Slaughter appeared to be deceased for some time, although the exact time of death is pending an autopsy by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, in Baltimore. Based on the information learned during the investigation, facts of the case, electronic data and witness statements Slaughter shot and killed Levi Buck on 5/2/2015. Slaughter fled the scene and subsequently took his own life sometime on the evening of May 2 or the early morning hours of May 3.

Previous stories

11:15 a.m.

An update from Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Preschool said that afternoon classes have been cancelled.
St. Mary's Sheriff's Office PIO, Cara Grumbles, told The BayNet that a death investigation is being conducted at Mt. Zion Church on Mt. Zion Church Road in Mechanicsville.

An officer told The BayNet that morning school at Mt. Zion Church on May 4 has been cancelled but afternoon school will most likely go on as planned.

The road reopened at 9:30 a.m.

More details to come as they are received.