

Ft. Pierce Police Department

News Release

09/05/09



R. Sean Baldwin

Chief of Police

920 S. U.S. #1

Ft. Pierce, FL 34950

Police get first big break in homicide of beloved store owner

Driver of getaway vehicle arrested, three black males still at large

Case#: 2009-4-10366

Incident Date: 09/04/2009

Incident Time: 9:20 a.m.

Incident Location: 2114 Okeechobee Road (A&M Discount Beverage)

Victim/Store Owner: Parag Patel, 44

Address: 4379 Gator Trace Lane

Arrested: Mahogany Tequila Alexander

Address: 1655 North 29th Street in Fort Pierce

DOB: 1/28/1980

Arrest Date: 09/04/2009

Arrest Time: 11 p.m.

Arrest Location: relative's home in Vero Beach

FORT PIERCE – Police detectives arrested the driver of the getaway vehicle involved in an early morning robbery resulting in the shooting death of a beloved store owner.

At approximately 11 p.m. Friday, Fort Pierce Police detectives assisted by the United State's Marshall's Fugitive Task Force arrested Mahogany Tequila Alexander, 29, of 1655 North 29th Street, in Vero Beach. She was taken into custody without incident at a relative's home. Alexander was transported to the Fort Pierce Police Department's detective's bureau and later booked into the St. Lucie County Jail at approximately 3 a.m. She has no bond.

The intense investigation throughout the day led to Alexander as one of four suspects involved with the shooting death of the victim. She has been identified as the driver of the newer model Chevy Caprice seen leaving the scene with three unidentified black males. The vehicle was located by the St. Lucie Sheriff's Office in the 1800 block of 46th Street about 2 hours after the crime.

Anyone with information is urged to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-273-8477 or Detective Dave Cuti at 772-468-1805 extension 5285. You can remain anonymous and still be eligible to receive up to \$1,000.00 reward for information leading to the arrests of the suspects involved in the case.

###

Audria V. Moore

Public Information Officer

Cell: 772-370-1848

Fax: 772-465-5181

Office: 772-461-3820 ext. 5203

Email: fppio@fppd.org