



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POLICE MAKE ARREST IN 9-YEAR-OLD GIRL'S MURDER

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (08/15/14) – The Temple Terrace Police Department is announcing the arrest of Granville Ashanti Richie for the murder of 9-year-old Felecia Williams. Ritchie is being charged with First Degree Murder, Capital Sexual Battery, and Aggravated Child Abuse.

The Temple Terrace Police Department, with the assistance of multiple federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, has learned the following:

On May 16, 2014 at approximately 3:30 p.m., Felecia Williams was picked up by Granville Ritchie and Eboni Wiley. All three traveled to Ritchie's apartment at 8910 Tanglewood Lane #721, in Temple Terrace. At approximately 4:50 p.m., Wiley left the apartment, leaving Ritchie alone with Felecia for approximately one hour and 10 minutes. When Wiley returned to the apartment at approximately 6:00 p.m., Ritchie met her at the door, shirtless and sweating. Ritchie was highly upset and told Wiley that Felecia had "run off."

Ritchie was interviewed by police during the time Felecia was missing. He told law enforcement that he was having sex with Wiley in another room in the apartment, after which they both came out to discover Felecia had left the apartment. Wiley stated that the version of events told by Ritchie had been a story they had both originally agreed to tell police.

On May 17, 2014 at approximately 3:23 p.m., Felecia's nude body was discovered by a citizen along the shoreline on the north side of the Courtney Campbell Causeway, which was reported to the Clearwater Police Department. The investigation shows that Felecia suffered blunt force trauma to her head prior to death, that she was sexually assaulted, and that she was strangled to death.

A search warrant was secured for Ritchie's apartment. Evidence at the scene indicated that Felecia's body had been concealed within a suitcase and dragged from the apartment. A broken suitcase wheel was found on the rear patio and wheel marks were found on the carpet leading from the patio. A broken zipper pull was discovered near the wheel marks

in the carpet inside the residence. The broken wheel and broken zipper pull belong to a Protégé suitcase, which is the same brand as a black suitcase found in the vehicle Ritchie was driving. The suitcase in the vehicle had all zipper pulls and both wheels intact, and statements from witnesses indicate that at one time Ritchie was in possession of two different sizes of the same style of black suitcase.

Ritchie stated that on May 16, 2014, after dropping Wiley off, he traveled to Thonotosassa and then returned to his apartment. However, cell site data indicated that the defendant never went to the Thonotosassa area. He instead returned to the apartment at approximately 9:00 p.m., where he remained until approximately 11:00 p.m., at which time he began traveling west. Wiley was not in the apartment during this time. The apartment had also been cleaned sometime during this time period. Cell site data analysis also revealed that Ritchie traveled to the area where Felecia's body was recovered, and that he remained there for a prolonged period of time.

A search warrant was secured for a Lexus Ritchie was driving on both May 16, 2014 and May 17, 2014. The Lexus had plant material lodged in the headlight area that is consistent with the plant material in the area where Felecia's body was recovered. The Lexus also had soil in the driver's floorboard area, which is consistent with the soil found in the area where Felecia's body was recovered.

Ritchie was arrested on August 15, 2014 at approximately 11:30 a.m.

The Temple Terrace Police Department would like to acknowledge and thank the following law enforcement agencies:

- Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms;
- Clearwater Police Department;
- District Six Medical Examiner;
- Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement;
- Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office;
- Manatee County Sheriff's Office;
- Pinellas County Sheriff's Office;
- State Attorney's Office 6th Judicial Circuit;
- State Attorney's Office 13th Judicial Circuit;
- Tampa Police Department;
- United States Marshall's Service;
- University of Florida; and
- University of South Florida.

Anyone who may have additional information about the murder of Felecia Williams should contact the Temple Terrace Police Department at (813) 989-7110.

Arrestee:

Granville Ashanti Ritchie
Black/Male
DOB: 12/05/1978

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