

Florida Atlantic University
Police Department
Supplement Case Report
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL, 33431
PHONE: 561-297-3500 FAX: 561-297-3565 faupd@fau.edu

		Case No. 13-0763
Location of Occurrence / Address 13TH STREET/FAU Flowering Tree Park Area/777 GLADES ROAD, N/A,		Cad No. 13-08-24-022808
Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 14:07		
CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION
	Suicide	EMERGENCY
Supplement Narrative		
<p>On August 24, 2013 at approximately 1415 hours, I was off duty headed home from a day shift and was called to return to work for a confirmed signal 32 (Suicide) at the FAU Flowering Tree Park located on the FAU Boca Raton Campus.</p> <p>Upon arrival, I assisted Sergeant Douglas with a traffic and perimeter set up for the scene. After the initial set up I posted up on the El Rio Trail where I remained for the duration until the scene was cleared at 1726 hours by Sergeant Douglas.</p>		
Reporting Officer CARDONA, MIGUEL	Supplement Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 18:40	Reviewed By ERVIN, LARRY
Approval Date and Time 08/25/2013 01:35	Signatures	Print Date and Time 09/17/2013 15:11
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		Case No. 13-0763
Location of Occurrence / Address 13TH STREET/FAU Flowering Tree Park Area/777 GLADES ROAD, N/A,		Cad No. 13-08-24-022808
CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	Date and Time Reported
	Suicide	08/24/2013 14:07
CLASSIFICATION EMERGENCY		
Supplement Narrative		
<p>On August 24th, 2013, at approximately 1415 hours, I was notified by Captain Ervin of a possible suicide on the FAU Boca Raton campus. I responded and arrived on scene at 1459 hours. The location of the incident was the wooded area of FAU Flowering Tree Park. As I arrived in the wooded area, I observed a W/M, deceased from an possible suicide by hanging.</p> <p>At approximately 1535 hours, a wallet was recovered inside the W/M's right rear pocket. The wallet contained a Florida Identification card which identified the W/M as Dustin Taylor McMahan DOB 06/24/84.</p> <p>I called the Medical Examiners office at 1544 hours and received a return call from Palm Beach County Forensic Investigator Doug Jenkins at 1537 hours. Jenkins informed me that he would be responding to the scene.</p> <p>At approximately 1600 hours, I observed a W/M driving a golf cart south on East University Dr inside the crime scene area. It should be noted that the north boundaries of the crime scene was Indian River Street, and that the area was marked off by cones and a marked FAU patrol unit (emergency lights activated). Also present on the golf cart was a blond hair female who stayed on the golf cart.</p> <p>At approximately 1616 hours, Captain Ervin and I made contact with a W/M at the south entrance of the El Rio Trail. The male identified himself as Devan Travis McMahan DOB 09/27/87. Devan stated he was looking for his brother who has been missing since August 23rd, 2013 at approximately 1700 hours. Devon identified his brother as Dustin McMahan and stated that his brother is heavy user of heroin, who has been depressed lately over not working. Devon stated his brother is known to frequent the El Rio Trail. Devon gave me his cell phone number and asked me to call him if I get any information concerning his brother.</p> <p>As Corporal Littleton and I approached the golf cart the W/M driver who I observed to be in possession of a camera exited the golf cart and began walking in the direction of the scene. Corporal Littleton and I informed the W/M that he was inside an active crime scene and ordered him to leave. The male who identified himself as Dylan Bouscher of the University Press did not comply with my orders and would not leave, as he was trying to take pictures and ask questions. I again informed Bouscher that this was an active investigation, and I informed him that I could not answer any questions, and ordered to leave or he would be subject to an arrest for Trespass after Warning and Obstruction of Justice by interfering with an investigation. After trying to ask addition questions Bouscher did finally leave the area only to return, this time on the El Rio Trail where he had a run-in with Detective Vickers. The actions of Dylan Bouscher showed a total lack of respect for FAU PD and did interfere with the police investigation.</p> <p>At approximately 1723 hours, Captain Ervin, Detective Vickers and I responded to 616 N.W. 13th Street Apt 26 to make notifications to the family. (SEE SUPPLEMENT REPORT BY DETECTIVE</p>		
Reporting Officer FRIEDMAN, RICHARD	Supplement Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 19:01	Reviewed By ERVIN, LARRY
Approval Date and Time 08/25/2013 01:14	Print Date and Time 09/17/2013 15:11	Printed By BRECHT, NANCY
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13TH STREET/FAU Flowering Tree Park Area/777 GLADES ROAD, N/A,		13-08-24-022808	08/24/2013 14:07
CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION	
	Suicide	EMERGENCY	
<p>VICKENS).</p>			
Reporting Officer	Supplement Date and Time Reported	Reviewed By	Approval Date and Time
FRIEDMAN, RICHARD	08/24/2013 19:01	ERVIN, LARRY	08/25/2013 01:14
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Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 14:07		
CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION
	Suicide	EMERGENCY
Supplement Narrative		
<p>On Saturday, August 24, 2013 at 1415 hours, Sergeant Douglas #137, notified me there was a person who reportedly took his life by possible suicide in the southend of the grassy area on the Boca Raton Campus of FAU, known as Flowering Tree Park. I notified Deputy Chief Brammer. I arrived at the scene at 1444 hours. Sergeant Douglas already had a crime scene secured. I kept Chief Lowe and Deputy Chief Brammer abreast of the incident. Lieutenant Friedman and I made contact with a white male trying to enter the scene who identified himself as Devan McMahan. Lieutenant Friedman took his information. After the Medical Examiner cleared the crime scene, I, along with Lieutenant Friedman and Detective Vickens went to the address the deceased had in his pocket. The address was 616 NW 13th Street, apt 26, Boca Raton Florida. This was the same address and same Sir name that was given to Lieutenant Friedman earlier in the day. We made notification to the family without further incident. We provided Palm Beach County Victim Services and Counseling telephone numbers to the family.</p>		
Reporting Officer ERVIN, LARRY	Supplement Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 19:34	Reviewed By ERVIN, LARRY
Approval Date and Time 08/25/2013 01:33	Signatures	Print Date and Time 09/17/2013 15:11
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CODE SECTION CRIME DESCRIPTION Suicide		Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 14:07
CLASSIFICATION EMERGENCY		
Supplement Narrative		
<p>On Saturday, August 24, 2013 at approximately 1407 hours, I responded to a signal 32 (SUICIDE). I arrived on scene at approximately 1410 hours and was flagged down by the complainant who was in his golf cart traveling north from the scene of the suicide.</p> <p>The complainant later identified as FAU employee Yclair Cesar, who directed me to the suicide scene, which was located in a wooded area called the FAU Flowering Tree Park. I observed a white male on his knees with a cord around his neck and attached to a nearby tree.</p> <p>I began to cordon off the scene with yellow crime scene tape and posted myself on the southeast corner between the El Rio Trail and Glades Road on the sidewalk until the scene was cleared by Sergeant Douglas.</p>		
Reporting Officer HERNANDEZ, WILLIAM	Supplement Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 19:34	Reviewed By ERVIN, LARRY
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Supplement Narrative		
<p>On August 24, 2013 at approximately 1410 hours, I observed an unknown W/M hanging from a tree, on his knees with a rope around his neck which was attached to a nearby tree. The individual did not appear to be conscious or breathing.</p> <p>At approximately 1413 hours, a crime scene was established for the area.</p> <p>At approximately 1420 hours, Boca Raton Police Department Crime Scene Unit arrived on scene.</p> <p>I notified Captain Ervin by phone and he responded to the scene.</p> <p>Detective Vickens arrived to conduct the investigation.</p>		
Reporting Officer DOUGLAS, MARY	Supplement Date and Time Reported 08/24/2013 19:51	Reviewed By ERVIN, LARRY
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CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION
	Suicide	EMERGENCY

Supplement Narrative

On Saturday, August 24, 2013, at approximately 1420 hours, while off duty, but on call, I received a telephone call from Florida Atlantic University Police Department (FAUPD) Police Communications Officer (PCO) Charles Williams. Per the request of Sgt. Mary Douglas, PCO Williams made notification to me relative to an incident wherein the body of an unidentified victim of a suspected suicide by hanging was discovered on the Boca Raton Campus of FAU, by an FAU Grounds Employee. PCO Williams further advised me the scene location was in the area of 13th St. and Glades Rd. At that time, I advised PCO Williams that I would be responding to assist with conducting the investigation, and I notified Sgt. Douglas, and Det. Cpl. Ed Delancy of the same.

At approximately 1512 hours I arrived on the scene, wherein I made contact with Sgt. Douglas, and Boca Raton Police Department (BRPD) Crime Scene Technician (CST), Dawn McDonald (ID #A157), who were awaiting my arrival. It should be noted that prior to my arrival, at approximately 1421 hours, Boca Raton Fire Rescue (BRFR) Medic 25 responded, pronounced the victim deceased, and departed the scene. At that location, I was directed by Sgt. Douglas and CST McDonald, to a wooded area there, which is known as FAU Flowering Tree Park, where the victim was located. I observed the white male (W/M) decedent, to be facing in an easterly direction in close proximity to a large tree. His body was in an upright kneeling position, with his ankles crossed (left over right) behind him; his arms were to his sides; his hands were both closed; his right hand was resting on top of a yellow colored plastic storage type crate which was immediately to his right. There was a blue and white colored shirt, and a pair of sunglasses sitting neatly on top of the crate as well. The decedent was clad in long length, blue colored shorts with white stripes; white colored low top sneakers; a black, leather like belt; and no shirt. He had tattoos on both arms, and on his back between his shoulder blades. The decedent had a ligature (hangman's noose) tied tightly around his neck, with the knot located near his left ear; his neck appeared to be elongated, and his head was tilted to the right. The ligature was fashioned from a white colored, long, thin, clothes line type of rope, appearing to be made of a cloth like material; it was suspended from a tree branch approximately twelve (12) feet above the decedent, and wrapped around two branches of the tree, and tied to one of them. The decedent's skin was pale and discolored, and his mouth was partially open, exposing what appeared to be his tongue, which was discolored as well. Neither the scene, nor the decedent's body appeared to bear any visible signs of a struggle, and no suspicious circumstances were apparent. CST McDonald advised me that she had already photographed the scene, and she advised me of the presence of, what she believed to be, a wallet in the right rear pocket of the decedent's shorts. In effort to identify the decedent, I carefully reached into his pocket, and removed a dark colored, leather like men's wallet, as CST McDonald photographed me doing so. Subsequently, at approximately 1530 hours, the decedent was identified by his Florida Identification Card (M255178842240) as non-FAU affiliate Dustin Taylor McMahan (DOB 6/24/84; residing at 616 NW 13th St., Apt. 26, Boca Raton, FL. 33486). I also observed that the picture image on the ID Card appeared to match the decedent. An NCIC/FCIC check of McMahan revealed a criminal history, but did not indicate him as missing.

I made contact with, and interviewed, FAU Grounds Employee, Yclair Cesar (complainant), who was

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still on the scene. Cesar stated that at approximately 1405 hours, while on break, he drove FAU golf cart (T #974) into FAU Flowering Tree Park, where he wanted to look at fruit trees in that area. When he arrived he noticed McMahan's body in the above described position; believing it to be some type of prank, he asked "Hey, what are you doing back here?" When McMahan did not respond, he moved closer (3-4 feet away) at which time he observed McMahan's open mouth and discolored tongue, which frightened him. He immediately departed that area and notified FAUPD of this incident.

At approximately 1555 hours, Lt. Richard Friedman made contact with the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's Office and notified them of this incident.

It should be noted that at approximately 1600 hours, while awaiting the arrival of the Medical Examiner, I observed a white golf cart being driven in the southbound lane of East University Dr., between Indian River St. and Glades Rd, which was within the established scene boundaries. The golf cart, which I observed to be occupied by a W/M I recognized as Florida Atlantic University Student / University Press (UP) member, Dylan Bouscher, and an unknown W/F with light colored hair, parked curbside near the area of the scene where McMahan's body was located. It should be noted, as an established crime scene, northbound and southbound traffic lanes on East University Dr. were blocked off at both Indian River St. and Glades Rd, by traffic cones and/ or police vehicles with emergency lights activated. It appeared that the golf cart's occupants disregarded the clearly established police road blocks, by navigating between or around them in order to gain access to the scene. I observed Bouscher exit the golf cart carrying a camera, while walking closer to the scene; he was then halted by Lt. Friedman and Cpl. Michael Littleton who were in the vicinity. I observed Lt. Friedman and Cpl. Littleton talking to Bouscher, and pointing him northbound, they appeared to be directing him to depart the scene in that direction. Bouscher walked back toward the golf cart, but turned around and pointed his camera in the direction of McMahan's body, appearing to be attempting to take photographs of the same. Lt. Friedman and Cpl. Littleton stopped him, and again pointed him in a northbound direction. At that time Bouscher returned to the golf cart and drove away northbound on East University Dr., turning eastbound through Parking Lot 60, toward the El Rio Trail to its rear.

At that time, I responded to the El Rio Trail where I observed the golf cart being driven southbound, back toward the area of the scene where McMahan's body was located. From a distance, I halted the golf cart and advised Bouscher and the unknown W/F that they were within the boundaries of the crime scene, and lawfully ordered them to leave immediately. Bouscher disregarded my lawful order by exiting the golf cart and attempted to approach closer on foot. Sgt. Miguel Cardona, who was in the vicinity, and myself, immediately ordered Bouscher to return to the golf cart and depart the scene; however, he continued to fail to comply, forcing me to issue the same lawful order multiple additional times. Rather than complying with my lawful orders to depart the scene, Bouscher kept asking "Are you all going

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CODE SECTION	CRIME DESCRIPTION	CLASSIFICATION
	Suicide	EMERGENCY

to put out an FAU Emergency Alert?" Finally, after I advised Bouscher that if he continued to fail to comply with my lawful orders to leave the scene, he faced the possibility of being subjected to further police action, Bouscher returned to the golf cart and departed the scene.

Subsequent to Bouscher's departure, I observed Lt. Friedman and Capt. Larry Ervin talking to a W/M at the south entrance of El Rio Trail. I was later advised that the W/M was identified as McMahan's brother, Devan McMahan (DOB 9/27/87). I was also advised that D. McMahan informed Lt. Friedman and Capt. Ervin that his brother (decedent) did not return home the night prior (8/23/13); because he (decedent) was known to frequent that area, he (D. McMahan) came there looking for him. I was further advised that D. McMahan provided a description of tattoos his brother has, and that the descriptions matched the tattoos on the decedent's body. I was additionally advised that D. McMahan indicated that his brother (decedent) has a history of intravenous Heroin use, and has been depressed lately about being unemployed.

At approximately 1641 hours, Forensic Examiner II Doug Jenkins responded to the scene per ME Case #13-0903, followed by Daniel Cardinale and John Dawson from Elite Removal Services Inc. at approximately 1643 hours. Jenkins examined the decedent's body and photographed the scene, after which time he removed the ligature from the tree. He turned some personal property from the decedent's pockets over to Ofc. McDonald, who collected the same, along with evidence from the scene. At approximately 1715 hours, the decedent's body (with the ligature) was removed from the scene by Elite Removal Services Inc., and the decedent was transported to the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner's Office.

CST McDonald's assistance in this case is documented per BRPD Case #13-11338.

At approximately 1735 hours Capt. Ervin, Lt. Friedman, and I responded to the decedent's residence, wherein I met with and interviewed Kathleen McMahan (his mother); Devan McMahan (his brother); and Nicole Koons (his girlfriend). Notification of the decedent's death was made at that time.

K. McMahan stated that she last saw her son (decedent) in her home, in his bed at approximately 1100 hours on 8/23/13. According to her, the decedent was a long time Heroin user, and he had been depressed lately over being unemployed. Previously he had talked about suicide multiple times in the past, but he promised he would never go through with it. She further indicated that approximately six (6) years ago, the decedent was the victim of a robbery, wherein the suspects brutally bludgeoned him, and left him for dead; in that incident he sustain head injuries. He received medical treatment, but not psychological treatment, and he seemed to never recover from the emotional scars left by the incident. From that time, he worked part time miscellaneous jobs, but could not find steady employment. About two (2) months ago he injured the Rotator Cup of one of his shoulders while exercising, and he has been unable to work since that time.

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	Suicide	EMERGENCY

D. McMahan stated that he last saw his brother (decedent) at approximately 1700 hours on 8/23/13; at that time, he saw him (decedent) with Koons, and believed that they were on the way either to CVS or Quick Trip, which are both near his residence. He briefly spoke to the decedent at that time, and he did not seem depressed. D. McMahan corroborated the statements made by his mother, as pertains to the decedent's robbery incident, depression, and drug use. He added that, to his knowledge, the decedent became addicted to prescribed pain medication after the robbery incident, and that addiction escalated into Heroin use approximately two (2) years ago. The decedent did not seem happy with his life and talked about suicide on a number of occasions; however, he did not take victim McMahan seriously and thought he just wanted attention.

Koons stated that on 8/23/13, she picked up the decedent from his residence at approximately 1700 hours, and they drove to a nearby CVS where she parked her vehicle, and talked for a while. Subsequently they walked to a nearby Quick Trip convenience store, where the decedent bought a can of beer. At approximately 1900 hours, they walked to a park area on the south end El Rio Trail (located near FAU Flowering Tree Park), where they sat and continued to talk. During that time, the decedent consumed just the one can of beer, and he neither possessed, nor used any drugs to her knowledge. She indicated that throughout their conversation, the decedent expressed to her that he was depressed and unhappy with the way his life was going; he also cried about it a number of times, and she attempted to console him. At approximately 2000 hours, they departed El Rio Trail, and walked back to her vehicle at CVS, where they continued to talk. At approximately 2100 hours the decedent, seeming calm and happy, exited her vehicle, and began walking in the direction of his residence; as he was walking away he displayed a playful, jovial demeanor. She told him she would see him in the morning (8/24/13), and she was going to take him to see a doctor about his shoulder, and he responded "okay". She watched him walk until he was nearly home, and then she drove away. She stated that during the approximate four (4) hour period of time they were together, the decedent told her an excessive amount of times that he loved her. When she asked him the reason why he kept telling her that, he replied "Because I just want to make sure that you know that I love you". Koons further stated that she and the decedent started dating approximately six (6) months ago. Both of them were battling drug addiction, and several times during their relationship they contemplated committing suicide together, but always vowed that one would not leave the other behind. She had since had a change of heart and no longer wanted to commit suicide, and believed that she had persuaded the decedent to continue living as well.

K. McMahan, D. McMahan, and Koons were provided with the telephone numbers for the Palm Beach County Victim Services, and Twenty-Four (24) Counseling Hotline.

At approximately 2230 hours, CST McDonald responded to FAUPD, at which time she provided me with a CD-R Disc containing fifty-four (54) scene photographs which were taken by her. The CD-R Disc was placed in evidence.

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Supplement Narrative		
<p>On Thursday, August 29, 2013, at approximately 1030 hours, relative to this case, I made telephone contact with Harold Ruslander, Supervisor for the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner Office. During the conversation, I was informed by Ruslander that the decedent's (Dustin McMahan's) cause and manner of death has been officially determined by his office to be "Suicide by Ligation Hanging", per M.E. Case #13-0903. He further indicated that the decedent was released to his family, but the M.E. case is in the "Pending" status, awaiting toxicology results; however, the results will not affect the aforementioned determination pertaining to the decedent's cause and manner of death.</p> <p>On Tuesday, September 3, 2013, at approximately 1045 hours, I responded to the Palm Beach County Medical Examiner Office; at that time, the rope type ligation used by the decedent (Dustin McMahan) was turned over to my possession in a sealed evidence bag made of paper. The ligation was subsequently placed in evidence by me, to be destroyed.</p> <p>At approximately 1510 hours, I responded to the Boca Raton Police Department (BRPD), wherein I met with Evidence Custodian (EC) Dana Hughes, ID #A542. At that time, EC Hughes turned over to my possession, the following property of the decedent's, which was previously collected at the scene by Crime Scene Technician (CST) Dawn McDonald...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forty-Four (44) cents (\$.44) in US Coins • One (1) Black wallet • One (1) Florida ID Card of Dustin Taylor McMahan • One (1) Wachovia Visa Card (ending with 6013) • One (1) Florida Visa (ending with 4796) • Miscellaneous business cards and papers in wallet • One (1) Red lighter • One (1) Small paper bag • One (1) Small pencil • One (1) Folding knife • One (1) Polo shirt, short sleeve • One (1) Pair of sunglasses • One (1) Florida Driver's License of Nicole Danielle Koons <p>Other items collected by CST McDonald when she processed the scene, included multiple beer cans, a hypodermic syringe, and a yellow colored plastic crate. At my request, these items were retained by BRPD to be destroyed.</p> <p>At approximately 1710 hours, I met with the decedent's mother, Kathleen McMahan, at the Boca Raton Campus of Florida Atlantic University (FAU). At that time, with the exception of Koons' Driver's License (DL #K520624817840), I turned all of the above property over to McMahan, who signed the BRPD Property and Evidence Vouchers corresponding to it. The aforementioned DL belonging to Koons was</p>		
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found to be expired as of 8/4/08; therefore, the same was destroyed.

Relative to the herein listed property, copies of the pertinent BRPD Property and Evidence Vouchers, and the Office of the Medical Examiner Property Receipt are attached to this report.

This case is closed.

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