

**Bristol County District Attorney's Office  
C. Samuel Sutter  
District Attorney**

**Press Release  
March 6, 2008**

District Attorney Sam Sutter and Taunton Police Chief Ray O'Berg are seeking the public's assistance in locating a vehicle and an unidentified female connected to the double homicide of Kevin and Shawn Vargas, ages 23 and 21, who were shot to death in a Somerset Avenue apartment last Sunday in Taunton.

On Sunday, February 24, 2008 at 2:10 pm., a single 911 call was received in Taunton, which reported that two shooting victims were inside of 729 Somerset Ave., apt. 1 rear. The caller, a friend of both of the victims, reported that they were unresponsive. The caller had just arrived at this location after leaving work and he did not observe any suspects or hear any gunshots. The victims, who are brothers, were transported by ambulance to Morton Hospital and pronounced dead of gunshot wounds. Both victims are well known to the police.

A canvass of the neighborhood surrounding this scene led to the discovery of several witnesses who heard gunshots or observed suspicious activity in the area before and after the shooting was reported. At least four suspects are believed to have been involved in this shooting. Two suspects, one seen carrying a rifle, fled the scene onto nearby Eighth Street, while one suspect was observed on Seventh Street. The suspects were witnessed entering a large white SUV before fleeing the area.

Continued investigation has led to the discovery of additional witnesses, including motorists, who were traveling in the area at the time of the shooting. Over 75 interviews have been conducted with witnesses, friends, family, and other associates of the two victims. People of interest have been identified and questioned. Several suspects are being investigated. A large number of tips have been provided to the Massachusetts State Police Unit assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office and the Taunton Police Department. Investigators have followed leads to several cities and towns across Massachusetts and into other states.

Investigators are appealing to the public for assistance in locating this large white sport utility vehicle. Investigators are also interested in speaking with a female who was seen near the white SUV. Anyone, especially motorists, who may have been in the area of the scene at 729 Somerset Avenue at approximately 2pm on Sunday February 24, 2008, are requested to contact the police if they observed or heard anything. The victims were targeted by people that they knew.

Anyone who sees a vehicle similar to this one is urged to call Taunton Police at 508-824-7522 or the District Attorney's Homicide Tip Line at 1-866-SOLVE-07.

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