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News

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Suquamish North Kitsap man arrested in shooting death

KINGSTON, Wash. -- A North Kitsap man was arrested early this morning and is being held in custody on suspicion of murder, involving the shooting death of another adult male who was known to the suspect.

William Benson Black, 28, with a Suquamish mailing address, was taken into custody around 12:30 a.m. Saturday in Kingston. Black has previous addresses listed in Bremerton, Hansville, Kingston, Port Orchard and Poulsbo.

Note: All persons involved in this investigation are accounted for. There are no additional suspects and no further danger to the public.

Around 9:50 p.m. Friday, Kitsap County Sheriff's patrol deputies and patrol officers from Suquamish Police Department responded to reports of gunshots fired in the 7000 block of NE Tundra Way, Suquamish. Arriving on-scene the officers found an unresponsive adult male inside of a 4-door Lexus passenger vehicle. The victim had sustained gunshot injuries. The Kitsap County Coroner's Office has confirmed the identity of the victim as **Trent Richard Snyder**, 28.

The patrol officers and medics from North Kitsap Fire and Rescue administered emergency first aid to Snyder until lifesaving efforts were terminated when he was pronounced deceased.

Snyder's most recent address lists the Olalla area, but he has had previous addresses in Bremerton, Kingston, Poulsbo and Silverdale.

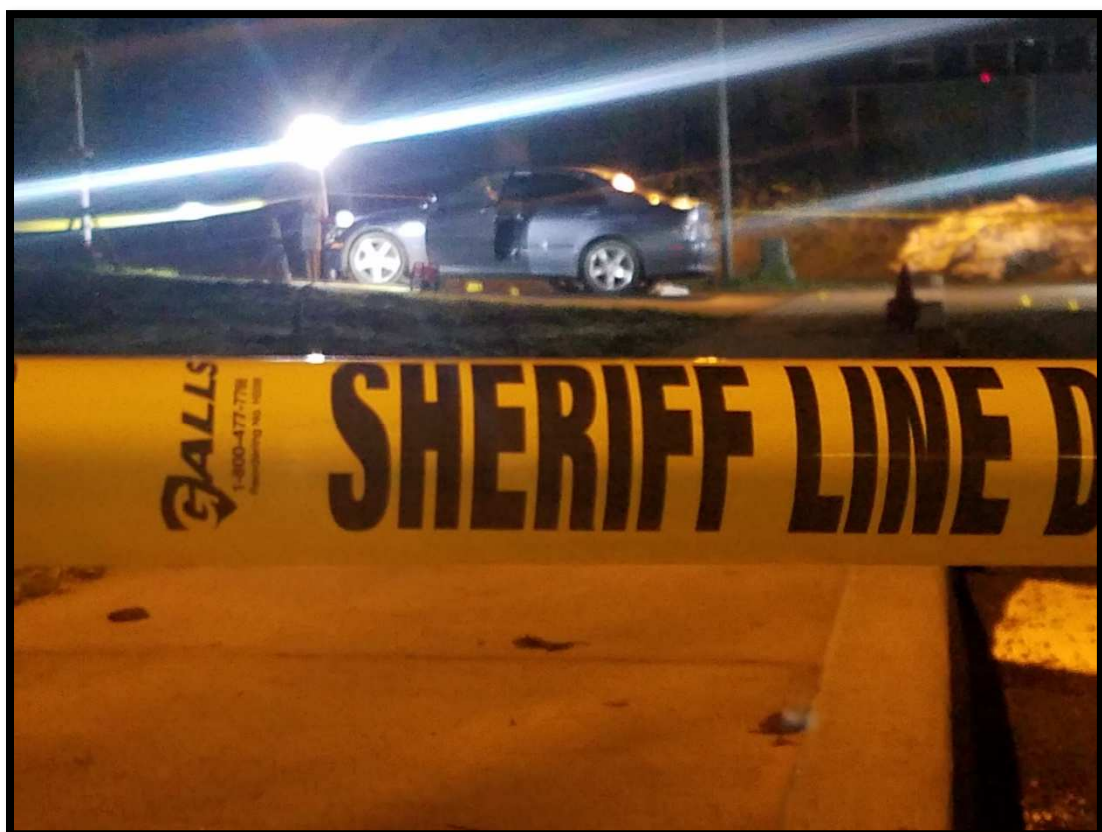
Although in its preliminary stages the investigation has shown that both men had a relationship with a 23-year-old Suquamish woman. William Black was the woman's current boyfriend with whom she has a child. The woman had been in a previous relationship with Trent Snyder and has a child with him.

Earlier in the evening the three adults and two children ate dinner at a local restaurant. William Black, the woman and the children returned to the residence on NE Tundra Way. Trent Snyder drove to Poulsbo.

While looking through the woman's cell phone, William Black discovered that the woman had been communicating with Trent Snyder. This upset Black as there had been a similar incident, previously, between the woman and Snyder with Black discovering the communication relationship.

The woman telephoned Snyder and asked him to come to the house so the three of them could discuss the issue and hopefully resolve it. Snyder agreed.

William Black was aware that Trent Snyder was coming over. Black went into the garage where he stores some clothing, returned inside, then went outside on the front deck to drink a beer. A short time later Snyder arrived in the Lexus sedan and stopped at the end of the street. The woman reported that Black ran toward the vehicle. The woman stated that she heard gunshots. The woman didn't know that Black had a firearm in his possession, nor did she observe Black fire the gun. She reported that she witnessed Black approach the vehicle and that she heard gunshots.



Investigators located three .40 caliber shell casings in the roadway near the Lexus sedan. An additional three rounds of live ammunition were found near the driver's door.

William Black left the area driving a Honda Civic 2-door vehicle. This vehicle was subsequently found abandoned at a residence in the 8900 block of NE Nature Way, off Parcels Road NE, in Kingston.

Sheriff's patrol deputies, assisted by Poulsbo police officers, established containment of the area. A Poulsbo officer observed Black emerge from a wooded area on foot. Black was cooperative with the officer's verbal commands and was taken into custody without incident. During a search incident to arrest a Ruger .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun was found on Black's person.

The county's forensic pathologist will perform an autopsy on Trent Snyder, most likely on Monday. The Kitsap County Coroner will make a determination as to the cause and manner of death.

William Black was booked into the Kitsap County Jail at 2:20 a.m. on a charge of murder, 2nd degree. Bail was set at \$1 million.

Black is scheduled to make an initial appearance in Kitsap County Superior Court at 3 p.m. Monday.

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