

Police: Man who served time in 2004 slaying charged with killing girlfriend in Hagerstown



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The Herald-Mail

A Hagerstown-area man is charged with first-degree murder in the Christmas night shooting death of his girlfriend at a home on South Burhans Boulevard in Hagerstown, according to Washington County District Court records.

Justin Kyle Marshall, 34, was arrested around 2:45 a.m. Sunday by the sheriff's office in Berkeley County, W.Va., in the death of 37-year-old Tristen Shifflett, Hagerstown Police spokeswoman Lt. Rebecca Fetchu said.

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Marshall was being held Sunday in the Eastern Regional Jail in Martinsburg, W.Va., without bail, the jail's website shows.

He had been released from prison about two years ago after serving time for a 2004 murder in Hagerstown, and at the time of Saturday's shooting he was wanted on a warrant charging him with assaulting Shifflett in Pennsylvania, Fetchu said.

Shifflett had been staying in Greencastle, Pa., at the time of her death, police said.



Police responded around 6:30 p.m. Saturday to the home owned and occupied by members of Marshall's family and found Shifflett with gunshot wound to the neck. She succumbed to her injuries at Meritus Medical Center east of Hagerstown, Fetchu said.

Police allege that Marshall shot her with a handgun during a dispute and then fled the scene, according to Fetchu.

About 10 people were present in the home when the shooting occurred, including the couple's young son. Washington County Child Protective Services made arrangements for the boy's care, Fetchu said.

Further details about the shooting and Marshall's arrest were not immediately available Sunday.

Marshall and Larry Wayne Shriner, formerly of Maugansville, were sentenced to 25 years in prison in the Nov. 3, 2004, beating death of a Hagerstown man, according to earlier Herald-Mail reports.

Both pleaded guilty in 2005 to second-degree murder in the death of 46-year-old Curtis Eugene Hill Sr. Other charges against them, including first-degree murder, were dismissed as a result of their plea agreements, court records show.

Both men petitioned the court to have their sentences modified. On Dec. 29, 2010, Washington County Circuit Judge Donald E. Beachley denied Shriner's motion but granted Marshall's, reducing his sentence to 21 years.

Beachley's order stated that Marshall must serve at least half of his sentence before being eligible for parole. Court records show the start date of the sentence as Nov. 4, 2004, when Marshall was ordered held without bail.

Marshall was 17 at the time of the murder and Shriner was 20, according to court records.

Hill was found dead near an alley beside what was then Russo's RX Pharmacy on North Cannon Avenue in Hagerstown, court records show.

Shriner and Marshall had confronted Hill in the alley at about 12:30 a.m., punched and kicked him in the face and chest, and dragged his body under a tree, court records show.

Shriner checked twice over the course of the night to see if Hill was still alive. Marshall accompanied him on one of those occasions, according to court records.

A woman found Hill's body at about 7 a.m., court records show.