

LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

ARREST REPORT

<input type="checkbox"/> City	<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile	Section/Beat	X/1
ID/EVENT# 0513477	ARRESTEE'S NAME FRANTA, MARK DOUGLAS (Last, First, Middle)			S.S.# [REDACTED]	
ARRESTEE'S ADDRESS (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code) CRANBROOK CRICLE, LAS VEGAS, NV					
CHARGES: MURDER, NRS 200.030					
OCCURRED: DATE 11/14/2010		DAY OF WEEK SUNDAY	TIME	LOCATION OF ARREST (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code) 4750 W. OAKLEY BLVD. (ISD/HOMICIDE)	
RACE	SEX	D.O.B.	HT	WT	PLACE OF BIRTH
			HAIR	EYES	
CIRCUMSTANCES OF ARREST					

On Sunday, November 14th, 2010, under LVMPD event number 101114-1240, officers responded to a call of a body having been discovered in the desert area to the rear of the Albertsons grocery store at 7151 W. Craig Road. Upon arrival the officers found the body of a White female adult, apparently having been left at that location by an unknown person. The officers requested Criminalistics and Homicide detectives respond to the scene and assume the investigation.

Homicide Sergeant W. Scott, P# 4038, along with Homicide Detectives L. Hanna, P# 2430, D. Boucher, P# 4836, and J. Kisner, P# 4858, responded to the scene and initiated an investigation. The detectives learned that approximately 0730 hours on November 14th a resident in the homes south of the desert area looked out the second floor window of his residence, which overlooks the desert area behind the Albertsons, and saw what appeared to be a human body lying in the desert. The resident went to a neighbor to have the neighbor contact the police.

Investigation at the scene revealed what appeared to be automobile tire tracks entering from the east end of the desert area to where the body was located, then exiting towards the west. The body, clothed in sweat pants and a long sleeve T-shirt – no underwear, shoes or socks – was lying on top of the tire tracks which indicated the body was removed from the rear trunk or cargo area of the vehicle, and dropped where the vehicle tires had already passed. A further examination of the tire tracks found an area where the dirt and gravel was pushed into a small mound, indicative of the vehicle backing, stopping, then accelerating forward. The relationship of the where the aforementioned mound of dirt and gravel was located to that of the body suggested the vehicle was a front wheel drive. As there was no identification with the body, the Coroner's office identified the deceased as Jane "Craig Road" Doe.

On November 15th Doctor L. Simms of the Clark County Medical Examiner's office conducted an autopsy on Jane "Craig Road" Doe, subsequent to which he determined the cause of death was asphyxiation and the manner was Homicide. Doctor Simms also noted the deceased had suffered blunt force trauma over a substantial portion of her body.

On November 15th detectives learned of a Missing Persons report filed with the LVMPD on November 14th, under event number 101114-2189, wherein Mark Franta reported his wife, Mary Elizabeth "Marybeth" Franta, had been missing since Saturday evening, November 13th. Missing Persons Detectives T. Marin, P# 2894, and R. Juarez, P# 3831, interviewed Patty Coleman, a friend of Marybeth Franta, who said they had attended a wedding Saturday, November 13th, and Franta dropped Coleman off at Coleman's residence at approximately 1830 hours. Coleman being the last person known to see Franta prior to her disappearance.

ARRESTING OFFICER(S)	P#	APPROVED BY	CONNECTING RPTS. (Type or Event Number)
DET. L. HANNA	2430	SGT. W. SCOTT, P# 4038	
DET. C. MOGG	5096		

LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

CONTINUATION REPORT

ID/Event Number: 0813477

Page 2 of 2

On November 15th Detectives Hanna and Mogg went to the Franta's residence at 4323 Cranbrook Circle and interviewed Mark Franta. Franta consented to detectives searching his residence while being interviewed and he provided the following: On Saturday, November 13th, he took his and Marybeth's 2002 Mazda Tribute, bearing Nevada license 236TAA, and had it washed for her to use to go to a wedding. Marybeth left around 1430 hours to go to the wedding and that was the last he saw her.

While Marybeth was at the wedding, Franta went to a grand opening party for a motorcycle shop owned by a friend of his. (Note: This has not been confirmed or refuted.) While at the party Franta was drinking, which he acknowledged caused problems in his life and his relationship with Marybeth, and at approximately 1900 hours Marybeth called him, realized he was drinking, and told him she was going to check on her horses, which she boards in the area of N. Tenaya Way and Deer Springs Way. Franta left the grand opening around 2030 hours and returned home. Franta said he tried repeatedly to contact Marybeth on her cellular telephone, but it always went to her voice mail.

At approximately 2330 hours, Franta left the residence at 4323 Cranbrook Circle, intending on walking to N. Tenaya Way and Deer Springs Way to check on Marybeth; Franta not wanting to drive while intoxicated. Franta said he walked to Smoke Ranch Road and decided to turn around and go home. While walking home he was stopped by two LVMPD officers on the Rainbow Boulevard overpass at US 95. (Note: This stop was confirmed as occurring at 0319 hours under event number 101114-0627. The officers said Franta appeared intoxicated.) The officers ultimately released him and Franta continued to walk home, never making contact with Marybeth. On Sunday, November 14th, at approximately 1430 hours, Franta called the LVMPD and reported Marybeth as missing.

While the above interview was taking place, Detective Kisner located the missing Mazda Tribute parked in front of the Albertsons grocery store at 7151 W. Craig Road. The vehicle was unlocked and Marybeth's purse was in the vehicle. A review of the store security video system revealed at approximately 0130 hours on Sunday, November 14th, the Tribute is driven into the parking lot, parked in front of the store, and a person resembling Mark Franta exiting the vehicle and walking west towards N. Tenaya Way.

On Tuesday, November 16th, Detective Mogg returned to the area where the Tribute was found in an effort to locate additional surveillance video. Detective Mogg went to the Short Line Express, N. Tenaya Way and W. Alexander Road, and found video of Mark Franta entering the store at approximately 0145 hours on Sunday, November 14th. Franta made a purchase and left the store.

On Wednesday, November 17th, Detectives Hanna and Mogg met with Mark Franta to confront him with the above information. When confronted with the video evidence, Franta did not provide any explanation for his being seen parking the Tribute in front of Albertsons, nor his being at the Short Line Express; nor did he deny doing so or being there.

Detectives believe that on Saturday night, November 13th, Marybeth Franta returned home from the wedding and changed into soft clothes for lounging around the house. Franta, either home drinking or upon returning from the grand opening party intoxicated, got into an argument with Marybeth, and ultimately killed her. Franta loaded her body into the back of their Mazda Tribute, a front wheel drive vehicle, drove her to the desert area behind the Albertsons, dumped her body out of the rear of the vehicle. Franta drove the vehicle to the front of the Albertsons, left the vehicle unlocked and Marybeth's purse inside, and walked away, subsequently stopping at the Short Line Express during his walk home. Based on the above, Mark Franta was placed under arrest for the murder of Mary Elizabeth Franta and ultimately booked into the Clark County Detention Center.

The investigation is continuing.