



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Suspect arrested in July homicide at Laurel hotel

Kenneth Frizzell Diggs, Jr., charged in death of one, injury of second victim

The suspect in the July homicide of a woman at a Laurel hotel has been taken into custody.

Kenneth Frizzell Diggs, Jr., 47, of no fixed address, was arrested at the residence of an acquaintance in the 4600 block of Hillside Road in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 27 without incident.

Diggs is charged in a warrant with the murder of Amanda Duer, 29, of La Plata, and attempted murder of Derick Henderson, 33, of Washington, D.C. He is also charged with assault, reckless endangerment, burglary and firearms violations.

Through investigation, the Howard County Police Department's Warrant/Fugitive Section developed a lead about Diggs' possible whereabouts. He was arrested with assistance from the U.S. Marshals and the Metropolitan Police Department. Police have not made a determination whether anyone will be eligible for reward money.

Police were called to the Turf Motel in Laurel on July 2 for a report of a shooting. Officers arrived and found two victims suffering from gunshot wounds. Duer was transported to Laurel Regional Hospital, where she was pronounced dead. Henderson was taken to Shock Trauma with a gunshot wound to the leg and was later released.

Investigators believe that Diggs and the victims knew one another and were involved in a dispute. According to witnesses, Diggs entered the doorway of the victims' motel room and fired shots at both of them.

Diggs is currently in the custody of Metropolitan Police pending extradition to Howard County, at which time the arrest warrant will be served.

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