

Arrest Of Deonta Ware

Mar 22, 2010 OPD responded to a call indicating that a bicyclist was hit on La.357 here in Opel. Officers arrived to find 17 year old Tyrell Jenkins lying on the shoulder of LA 357, deceased. There were no witnesses to what appeared to be a hit/run accident. Officers along with investigators only had a small piece of what appeared to be a headlight. After following up on several tips the case went cold.

On Feb 3, 2014 Det. Crystal LeBlanc received a tip regarding now 22 year old Deonta Ware being a possible suspect. Interviews were then conducted which identified Ware as the person driving the vehicle that struck Jenkins. Witnesses stated that Ware who was driving a stolen truck saw Jenkins riding on the side of the street and intentionally struck him killing him instantly.

The case turned from being an accident to a homicide. The motive for the murder is retaliation. Ware stated to family members that he killed Jenkins because he (Jenkins) assaulted his grandmother just weeks before the murder.

Last week an inmate housed with Ware at Hunts Correctional was interviewed and indicated that Ware confessed to him about the murder as well. A warrant for 1st degree murder was obtained and Ware was booked this morning into the OPD jail. He went before a magistrate who issued no bond.

Ware was transported back to Angola State Penitentiary where he was serving time for a number of crimes he plead guilty to in August of 2011 in 27th Judicial District Court.

