

Homicide Arrest – June 26, 2014

OPD investigators just arrested 19 year old Traylon Batiste of Opelousas for the murder of Donnie Sam. Batiste who'd been picked up hours after the murder by OPD and held on unrelated charges, was in the St Landry Parish Jail when booked on the 2nd degree murder charge. Batiste list his address as 605 Choctaw Dr Opel.

Investigators have done a tremendous job in investigating this very tragic crime and identifying the person responsible.

Evidence collected at the crime scene as well as the results of evidence submitted to the LA. State Police Crime Lab, has identified Batiste's DNA in the clothing of the young victim. It is believed that the motive for the murder was robbery. Batiste and Sam knew each other and based on the interviews of several people, did not only know each other but were believed to be good friends.

Batiste will go before a magistrate in the morning to answer to the charge of 2nd Degree Murder.

Again our sympathy goes out to the family of both of these young men. The entire city is effected by these crimes and it is important for families and or loved ones to recognize when there is a potential for violence and speak up, immediately. This case remains under investigation. Anyone with any additional information about this crime or any other is asked to call 948-2500 or 948-TIPS.

