



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: Monday, May 6, 2019

Contact: Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

Marion Gavins Jr. to be Tried as Adult for First Degree Murder in Death of Curtis Gray

On Friday afternoon, May 3, Marion Gavins Jr., who was previously arrested for the shooting death of 18-year-old Curtis Israel Gray, was indicted for First-degree Murder and will be tried as an adult by 7th Circuit State Attorney R. J. Larizza.



Gavins Jr.'s May 3, 2019 booking photo.

"We fully support the state's decision and applaud the Grand Jury and State Attorney Larizza," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Sadly, this is a young man who exhibited increasingly violent behavior that ultimately caused another teenager's death. Being tried as an adult is the most appropriate way to prosecute this crime."

Gavins, 17, was held at the Department of Juvenile Justice in Daytona Beach since his arrest on April 14. On Friday evening, Gavins was brought to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility for processing following the indictment.

Gavins is being held by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office at the Duval County Jail in Jacksonville, as a courtesy hold, until he turns 18 years old on May 16th. Once Gavins turns 18, he will be transported back to the Sheriff Perry Hall Inmate Detention Facility in Flagler County.

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“It is a somber reality of our job that sometimes requires the charging of juveniles in adult court – but some acts are so violent and have such little regard for the value of human life, that the perpetrator has to be held accountable with adult consequences,” State Attorney R. J. Larizza said.

Original news releases below:

Date: Saturday, April 14, 2019

Contact: Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

Marion Gavins Jr. in Custody, Charged with First-Degree Murder

Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) deputies and detectives have arrested Marion Lee Gavins Jr., age 17, of Palm Coast, and charged him with First Degree Murder following the death of 18-year-old Curtis Israel Gray early Saturday morning.

Through the investigation, it was revealed that an altercation occurred outside the Coin Laundry on Belle Terre near Palm Coast Parkway. Deputies and Sheriff's detectives were able to interview witnesses and quickly identify a possible suspect.

“Our detectives worked swiftly and strategically to solve this murder investigation and were able to take Gavins Jr. into custody without anyone else getting hurt,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “This is a tragedy for two families, one who lost a son who was an aspiring athlete and the other whose son will likely spend the rest of his life in prison or face the death penalty. I hope this fast arrest will help the Gray family with their loss.”

Deputies conducted a felony traffic stop on a car leaving the suspect's house on Saturday afternoon. Deputies along with our SWAT team served a search warrant at 23 Woodfaire Lane in Palm Coast on Saturday afternoon. The vehicle the suspect was in during the shooting was located in the garage but the suspect was not in the home and was not in the car previously stopped.

Around 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, deputies spoke with Gavins' mom. She agreed to meet at the Sheriff's District 2 Office in Palm Coast. At 3pm today Gavins turned himself in, with his mom present, and was arrested.

Gavins has a criminal arrest history dating back to 2014. He was arrested in October of 2014 for sale of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a school. In 2015, he was arrested for violation of probation and possession of a weapon on school campus (an 8-inch kitchen knife). In 2016, he was arrested for domestic violence.

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Sheriff Staly gave a press conference at 5:45 Sunday evening. It can be viewed in full here:
<https://www.facebook.com/flaglercounty.sheriffsoffice/videos/2224635544225797/>

Date: Saturday, April 13, 2019

Contact: Brittany Kershaw | (386) 586-2637 | bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com

FCSO Seeks Community's Help in Locating Murder Suspect

The investigation into the death of 18-year-old Curtis Israel Gray early Saturday morning has led Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) detectives to identify 17-year-old Marion Leo Gavins Jr., DOB 5/16/2001, of 42 Woodlyn Lane in Palm Coast, as the suspect.

At this time, the FCSO is requesting the help of the community in locating Marion Gavins. A warrant for First Degree Murder has been issued for Gavins' arrest.

"If you know where he may be or any information regarding this shooting, please call us," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Do not approach him. He should be considered armed and dangerous. To Gavins I say turn yourself in before you or anyone else is hurt."

Anyone with information on the location of Marion Gavins is asked to contact FCSO at 386-313-4911 and mention Case No. 2019-34712. You may also call Crime Stoppers at 1-888-277-TIPS (8477) where you could be eligible for a reward up to \$5,000.00.

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FCSO Working Active Death Investigation in Palm Coast

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to Palm Coast Laundry, located at 4845 Belle Terre Parkway in Palm Coast, shortly after 12:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Deputies found an 18-year-old male with a gunshot wound who was immediately airlifted to a trauma hospital. The victim, Curtis Israel Gray, later succumbed to his injuries.

FCSO Detectives and Deputies are actively investigating the incident and following all leads. This is believed to be an isolated incident and there is no immediate danger to the community.

"This is a very sad day for the families of those involved and we are following all leads to find out

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exactly what happened,” Sheriff Rick Staly said. “We will release more information when it is appropriate.”

Further details will be released as the investigation continues.

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