

SYRACUSE POLICE DEPARTMENT
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Anthony W. Ciriello, Chief

UPDATE Immediate Release – Media

February 19, 2015

The Syracuse Police Department has release more information related to the early morning shooting of two individuals.

Syracuse Police Chief Tony Ciriello stated in a press conference held this morning at 7 a.m. that two of his officers responded to a 9-1-1 call at approximately 12:29 a.m. at the location of 205 East Main Street, Syracuse. Upon entry, officers located a female victim, identified as Tara Lynn Thornburg, 23, who was suffering from a gunshot wound to the head. Officers searched the residence and located a second subject in a bedroom, who was found deceased from a gunshot wound to his head. Thornburg was immediately transported by Syracuse/Turkey Creek Township E.M.S. medics to a scene helicopter and airlifted to Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, in critical condition.

Kosciusko County Coroner Michael Wilson will be taking the deceased victim to the Northeast Indiana Forensic Center for completion of an autopsy later today. The name of the deceased individual is currently being withheld pending notification of family members, according to Wilson and Ciriello. Evidence technicians from the Kosciusko County Major Crimes Task Force were still processing the scene at the time of this release. Officers from the Indiana State Police and the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department have been assisting Syracuse with the investigation since early this morning.

Chief Ciriello re-stated that officers are attempting to locate Brandon Thomas Woody, 22, in regards to his involvement with the shootings. He also stated that Woody was familiar with the two victims and that this does not appear to be a random incident. Woody should be considered armed and dangerous at this time, and citizens with information are asked to call 9-1-1 or their local law enforcement. Anonymous tips can also be called to Crimestoppers or to the Kosciusko County 24 hour TIP line at 574-372-2494.

The Kosciusko County Prosecutor's Office advises that the defendant's charge is merely an accusation and that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Anthony W. Ciriello, Chief
Syracuse Chief of Police
Information Officer

1st Sgt. Chad D. Hill
Public

South Bend Crimestoppers: 800-342-STOP

Fort Wayne Crimestoppers: 800-237-STOP