

## WITNESS IN DETROIT CLUB DEATHS KILLED - HE WAS SHOT AFTER TALKING TO COPS

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Author: BEN SCHMITT and AMBER HUNT, FREE PRESS STAFF WRITERS

Just days after he told police what he knew about two killings at a Detroit after-hours club, Cressie Horne was shot to death in his bed, his wife and young daughter by his side, police said Tuesday.

Authorities are investigating whether he was killed to ensure his silence.

Horne, 35, of Detroit died at Henry Ford Hospital last week, after police interviewed him in the Jan. 6 slayings at the Social Club on Detroit's west side. The killings have again sparked concerns about violence and illegal activities in the city's after-hours scene, nine months after the rapper Proof and Army veteran Keith Bender Jr. died in an illegal club on 8 Mile.

According to a police report obtained Tuesday, it's unclear what Horne knew about the killings, if anything. He was inside the club when Kevin Johnson, 27, was killed in a restroom; Angelo Brandon, 32, was gunned down outside the club later.

But the report indicated that while at least 21 other people were witnesses, Horne was one of several who cooperated with authorities.

Police did not reveal any evidence suggesting Horne was killed so he'd stay quiet, and no one has been charged in his death. On Monday, **Dalshan Peacock**, 20, of Detroit was arraigned in the nightclub shootings after being found sleeping in a stolen car over the weekend.

Authorities said Tuesday that Horne's family heard a noise in the home early Thursday morning, and that Horne left his bed to investigate. Finding nothing, he returned. A short time later, a gunman entered the room and shot him several times.

Several witnesses implicated **Peacock** in the shootings at the after-hours club, the police report said. It also said that one witness told police that **Peacock** knew Horne made a statement to authorities.

Ardie Hudson, a 22-year-old woman who was one of about 50 people at the club the morning of the shootings, said Horne's death has her scared, even though she didn't see anything.

"My only guess is he knew something about something," she said. "I've been paranoid a lot lately since it happened."

The police report also shed light on what police say they believe happened the night of the slayings.

Witnesses told police that **Peacock** went to the club with at least two guns and bypassed the

doorman, who was searching patrons for weapons. Citing another witness, the report said Horne told the doorman not to search **Peacock** or his friends.

**Peacock** allegedly was dancing with a woman when Johnson pulled her away and took her into a bathroom, the report said. Johnson and the woman were having sex when **Peacock** walked in and shot Johnson several times, including at least once in the head, with a .45-caliber handgun, police said in the report.

**Peacock** left the club with another man, then drove back about 15 minutes later and fired numerous rounds from a 9mm gun, striking Brandon, the report said.

Johnson's mother, Minnie Johnson, said Tuesday that she doesn't know **Peacock** and has no idea why her son was killed.

"Someone shot my son dead," she said. "That's all I know."

Johnson was buried Tuesday after a funeral at James H. Cole Home for Funerals in Detroit.

He had a son, Daonte, who was born prematurely in November and was still hospitalized at the time of his father's death.

Contact BEN SCHMITT at 313-223-4296 or [bcschmitt@freepress.com](mailto:bcschmitt@freepress.com), or AMBER HUNT at 313-222-2708 or [ahunt@freepress.com](mailto:ahunt@freepress.com).

ILLUSTRATION: Photo

CAPTION: **Dalshan Peacock**, 20, of Detroit was arraigned in the club shootings. It's possible he knew the witness had given a statement.

DISCLAIMER: THIS ELECTRONIC VERSION MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM THE PRINTED ARTICLE

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS; NEWS

Page: 1A

Index Terms: homicide; multiple; 2; shooting; Detroit;homicide; witness; Cressie

Horne;nightclub; Social Club

Record Number: dfp0000378909

Copyright (c) Detroit Free Press. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.