

## TYPE OF SLAYING MAKES SOLUTION DIFFICULT

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Police said Tuesday the shooting death of reputed drug lord **Demetrius Holloway** probably wouldn't be solved quickly because it was a contract murder.

'You can write this one off -- unless something really strange happens,' said one investigator who spoke on condition of anonymity. 'This was a stone contract . . . I don't think we're going to find out much about this one.'

Police said at least five employees saw **Holloway** gunned down Monday afternoon inside the Broadway, a clothing store on Broadway near Brush just two blocks west of Detroit Police headquarters. One of the store's owners, Mark Clark, said eight to nine customers were present.

But witnesses have provided little useful information, investigators said.

Those people may be able to identify the killer, an investigator said, but the problem is finding the suspect.

"I don't think anyone knows who it was that came in there."

Investigators on Tuesday downplayed the significance of a witness report that two young men left the scene in a black BMW shortly after the shooting. Police believe it's unlikely those men were involved and it is more likely they were customers who were leaving because they were frightened.

Wayne County Prosecutor John O'Hair said contract killings, as a whole, are difficult to solve.

"They are perpetrated by people who have some expertise in this field," O'Hair said. "It's the type of criminality where everybody is pretty closed-mouthed. But somebody does know. . . ."

Johnnie Granados, spokesman for the Detroit office of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, said DEA agents believe **Holloway** was somehow connected to the seizure last week of 71 kilos of cocaine in Detroit.

"There are four prevailing views," he said. "One is that it's a territorial dispute; second that it's a personal vendetta . . . third, someone within his organization who saw him possibly taking a fall because of the federal investigation and wiped him out and, finally, that he was of a different mind of drug suppliers in Detroit and some exterior force has eliminated him."

Bader Cassin, Wayne County medical examiner, said **Holloway** was shot twice at close range -- once in the back of the head and once in the forehead. The type of gun used has not yet been determined because the bullets fragmented, Cassin said.

Clark, 40, said he was in an upstairs office when the shooting occurred about 4 p.m. **Holloway**, an occasional customer, was shot and on the floor near the store counter when Clark came downstairs. The counter is about 20 feet from the front door.

The store was closed Tuesday because "we have some shaken-up salespeople," Clark said. He planned to reopen today.

He confirmed that police found large amounts of cash and a handgun on **Holloway**'s body. Investigators said the killer did not take about \$14,000 stuffed into **Holloway**'s pockets.

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Caption: Photo JOHN LUKE

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