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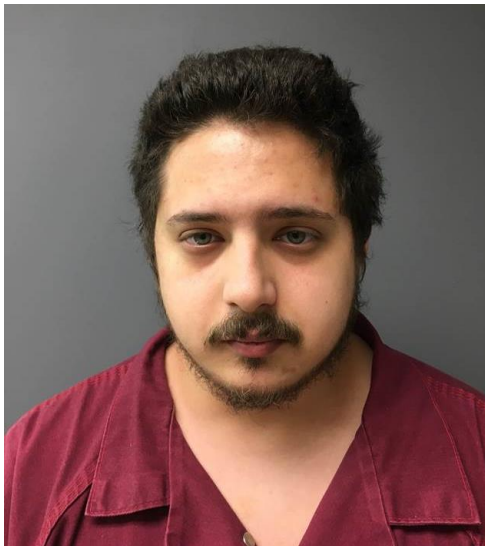
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SEAN EMMELL CHARGED WITH FIRST-DEGREE MURDER AFTER MAN DIES FROM JAN. 3RD STABBING



SEAN EMMELL BOOKING PHOTO

NORRISTOWN (Jan. 9, 2019) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Pottstown Borough Police Chief Michael J. Markovich announce the charging of Sean Emmell, 24, of Pottstown, with First-Degree Murder after the victim died following a Jan. 3, 2019 stabbing in Pottstown.

At 11:56 p.m., Friday, Jan. 3, 2019, Pottstown Borough Police Department responded to the exterior of the Pottstown Middle School at 546 N. Franklin Street for a reported stabbing. Arriving officers found 20-year-old Joshua Shupard seated in a Mercury Mountaineer bleeding profusely from a large chest wound. Goodwill Ambulance transported the victim to Reading Hospital where he was admitted in critical condition. Pottstown Police also found the defendant and a 19-year-old female at the scene. A blood-stained folding knife was recovered three feet from the defendant.

The victim later died at 6:46 p.m., Monday, Jan. 7 at Reading Hospital. An autopsy was performed by forensic pathologist Dr. Neil Hoffman on Jan. 8, 2019. Dr. Hoffman opined that the cause of death was complications of stab wounds to the chest and the manner of death was homicide.

The Montgomery County Detective Bureau and the Pottstown Police launched a joint investigation which revealed that the 19-year-old woman had picked up Emmell, with whom she had a prior relationship, and gone to the middle school to talk. Because Emmell had raped her in the past, she asked her current boyfriend, Shupard, to be in the area “to keep an eye out.” When Emmell acted threateningly toward her, the woman opened the car door and pulled out the folding knife. Emmell gained control of the knife. The victim arrived, and Emmell stabbed the victim multiple times.

Emmell was arrested by Pottstown Police on Jan. 4, and charged with attempted murder, rape, aggravated assault, sexual assault, terroristic threats, unlawful restraint, recklessly endangering another person and other related charges. Today, charges of First-Degree Murder and Third-Degree Murder were added. He has been in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF) since his arrest.

The defendant was arraigned today on the new charges by Magisterial District Judge Scott T. Palladino. There is no bail available for First-Degree Murder cases, and Emmell remains in MCCF. A preliminary hearing was set for 10 a.m., on Jan. 23, 2019, before Judge Palladino.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant Chief of Trials Brianna Ringwood, who oversees the Family Protection Unit, and Assistant District Attorney Kelli McGinnis.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.