



For Immediate Release

York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office

June 25, 2008

Investigators Make Arrest in Murder of Homeless Man

Yorktown - Sheriff J. D. "Danny" Diggs announced today that Investigators from his office arrested Ryan David Caudle, age 22, of the 100 Block of Sheppard Drive, Williamsburg (upper York). He was charged with First Degree Murder in the death of Robert Martin, age 49. Martin was a homeless man who lived in the area of James-York Plaza. Martin was found stabbed to death on June 17 behind the Dollar Tree Store in James-York Plaza Shopping Center.

Caudle was initially developed as a suspect on June 20. He was transported to the Sheriff's Office and questioned about the crime. There was not enough evidence to charge him at that time. That same day, Investigators served a search warrant at Caudle's residence. They seized items including several knives, scissors, and a DNA sample from Caudle. Caudle remained a suspect and Investigators continued to pursue this and other potential leads. On June 25, the tenacity and perseverance of the Investigators paid off. They were able to develop additional evidence and arrest Caudle for this murder. He was taken into custody without incident Wednesday evening and later transported to the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail. He is being held with no bond.

Sheriff Diggs further stated, "This was a difficult case to solve. I am very proud of the entire Investigative Division, especially Investigators Sean Jackson and Jason Stump, who worked tirelessly to bring this case to a successful conclusion."