

# NEW BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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871 ROCKDALE AVENUE · NEW BEDFORD, MA · 02740

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

(PR-9-103)

For Immediate Release

Thursday, September 20, 2007

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*See Also:* 2007-17586

### MAN DIES FROM GUN SHOT WOUND TO THE HEAD

**New Bedford, Massachusetts** – Bryan L. TAVARES (DOB: 5/23/1989) of Dartmouth was found shot in front of 531 Rivet Street tonight at about 9:27 P.M. by New Bedford Police patrol officers responding to multiple 911 calls about shots fired and a man being shot in the head. When patrol officers arrived on scene they observed a lone male, later identified as Bryan L. TAVARES, lying in the street just east of 531 Rivet Street bleeding profusely from at least (1) wound to the head. There was also a .38 caliber revolver found in the street a short distance from TAVARES' body.

Patrol officers immediately performed emergency medical care on TAVARES and were joined by medics from New Bedford Emergency Medical Services (EMS) shortly thereafter. TAVARES was then transported by EMS to St. Luke's Hospital via ambulance. Tragically TAVARES succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead at St. Luke's Hospital at 9:50 P.M.

Detectives from the New Bedford Police Major Crimes Division and Crime Scene Services/Identification Bureau as well as Massachusetts State troopers assigned to Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter's Office were called to the scene and the case is actively under investigation.

It is unknown at this time if the injury was self-inflicted or whether TAVARES was the victim of a homicide however all possibilities are being examined. Anyone with any information regarding this incident is asked to call the New Bedford Police Detective Division at 508.991.6320. In addition, anyone with any information that wishes to remain anonymous is urged to call the New Bedford Police Tip Line at 508.961.4584. **ALL** calls are completely anonymous.

The New Bedford Police Department extends its sympathies to the friends and family of Bryan TAVARES and assures them as well as the community that this case will be thoroughly investigated.