

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

This investigative report pertains to the death investigation conducted by the Tarpon Springs Police Department concerning Shawn McMillan.

On November 7, 2001, Special Agent Supervisor (SAS) Richard Pyles and SA John Halliday traveled to Zephyrhills Correctional Institute, located at 2739 Gall Blvd, Zephyrhills, Florida 33541. The purpose of the trip was to speak to Daniel John Nordmark. Investigators met with Inspector Don Dewitt who is the coordinator for investigations of this facility. Mr. Dewitt advised that he would have Correctional Officer (CO) Nordmark come to the administration building for the interview.

At approximately 0910 hours, investigators introduced themselves to CO Daniel Nordmark. He was advised that we wished to speak to him concerning the incident with Shawn McMillan. He advised that he had been thinking about calling us for two weeks and just never made the call. Rita Nordmark told him that we were professional, honest and just trying to tie up loose ends in the case. He said that he had an attorney but would speak to us. He said he would tell us if he did not feel comfortable with certain questions. He was told that he could stop at any time and not continue with the interview if he desired.

Interview: Daniel John Nordmark, White, Male, Date of Birth: May 13, 1976  
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Daniel advised that on the evening in question he was quite intoxicated and obviously shaken by the tragic events that occurred later in the evening. On September 2, 2001, he was in the British Pub drinking and playing pool. He stayed there until approximately 11 PM or thereabout when Shawn McMillan and he drove to the Palms Bar and Grill. Rita Nordmark drove her vehicle separately and met them at the Palms. They had a few drinks and both Dan and Shawn went up to sing and participate in the Karaoke night. Rita left the bar toward the early morning hours of September 3, 2001 prior to their departure. Toward closing time, a verbal altercation broke out and Daniel advised that he was in fear for his and Shawn's safety. The argument erupted due to people complaining about getting stage time with reference to the Karaoke

At this time, he went to his vehicle in the parking lot and secured his 25-caliber Sundance handgun. He placed the gun in his pocket and left it there. In the meantime,

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<b>Activity Start Date: Nov 07, 2001</b>	<b>Activity End Date: Nov 09, 2001</b>

Approved By: Pyles,Sheridan R

**Description:**

Interview with Daniel Nordmark

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a Deputy Sheriff passed through the lot and just appeared to be making a typical area check. The crowd dispersed and there was no further verbal confrontations. However, Daniel inadvertently locked his keys in his car when he retrieved the gun. They walked over to the Wal-Mart store to use the pay telephone. He called his sister-in-law, Rita Nordmark who in turn drove back to get them.

During the time they were in the parking lot Shawn told Dan to give him the gun, as he didn't want Dan to get in trouble. Dan knew he was legal in carrying the gun as he has qualified with guns for work and is by Florida Statute authorized to carry a firearm. Shawn was infatuated with the gun and kept it for quite sometime. Rita eventually responded to pick them up and they proceeded to the British Pub where she had to assist in closing the establishment, then take them home. She went into the Pub and they remained in the parking lot. Shawn, Dan and Bernie Dillman were standing out in the parking lot to the south of the front entrance to the Pub. Dan demanded that Shawn give back the gun but Shawn kept asking him to let him keep holding it. At one point in time, Bernie held the gun and it discharged into the air. Dan described that the gun was fired in a southwest direction toward the sky. Dan does recall at one point in time he had the gun back in his possession but somehow Shawn ended up with it at the end. The change of possession is rather unclear to him at this time.

Shawn retrieved the gun from Bernie after it was discharged and kept it even though Dan again asked to have it returned to him. Dan remembers seeing Jennifer Pysz drive up in the lot from her job at Neptunes. She immediately entered the Pub to use the restroom. He also possibly recalls seeing Steve Newman in the lot but isn't positive. He was unfamiliar with the others that may have been with him.

Daniel again stated that he and Shawn McMillan were quite intoxicated at this point in time. He does not specifically recall all the events and their exact time sequence.

Shortly thereafter, Rita Nordmark returned to the parking lot after helping clean the British Pub and close it for the evening. She got into her vehicle and Shawn McMillan entered the rear passenger's seat. Daniel eventually entered the car after he relieved himself (urinated) in an area of some bushes in the parking lot. They then drove west on Klosterman Road to Alternate 19 enroute to take Shawn home. This route was past the area where Rita and Daniel live. Shawn was in the rear passenger's seat but was leaning up toward the area between the front seats talking to them. Both Daniel and Shawn were smoking cigarettes at this time. Shawn was trying to convince them to continue to party as he had alcohol at his house. Daniel also stated that Shawn mentioned driving to Tampa to party as the bars close at 3:00 AM.

While traveling on Alternate 19, Daniel again asked Shawn for the gun and reached back when he heard the gun discharge. He looked around to his left side and saw Shawn lying across the car back seat with his head up against the drivers rear door. He noticed blood on his right shoulder and thought that he had accidentally shot himself in the shoulder area. He immediately noticed that they were passing the Helen Ellis Hospital and yelled for Rita to make a U-turn and go into the emergency entrance.

Daniel advised that a lady (Helen Ellis employee) tried to get Shawn out of the back seat of the vehicle. She was struggling, so Daniel pulled him out of the back seat on the driver's side. Daniel was asked if this was possibly how Shawn's shoe could have come off his foot. Daniel replied that it was quite difficult to pull him out of the car and that his foot may have become lodged under the front seat.

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Daniel was then asked a few questions. He was asked whether there was any physical confrontation earlier in the evening at the Palms. He denied there being anything other than a verbal disagreement.

He was asked if they were doing any drugs other than alcohol. Daniel stated that he does not do other drugs but that Shawn had asked about obtaining cocaine and pills that evening. To the best of his knowledge Shawn never consumed any drugs that evening.

Daniel purchased the 25 caliber Sundance from a friend, Ian Wild who lives in Holiday, Florida. He thinks that the weapon was purchased for \$100.00 approximately two (2) years prior. He did not have Ian's telephone number but stated that he works at the Winn Dixie located at the northwest corner of Enterprise and McMullen Booth Road in the Countryside area of Clearwater.

Daniel advised that he has been upset over the death of Shawn and has taken quite a bit of time off from work. He said he was on some medication prescribed for his anxiety. He thought the investigation was over when Tarpon Springs Police initially took the case and released Rita her car. Then he became very upset when FDLE entered the investigation several weeks after the date of the incident. He was distraught enough over the death of Shawn and was wondering what was wrong. He stated that he would be available should we need to get in touch with any other witnesses he mentioned in this interview. The interview was conclude at approximately 0950 hours.