

## Teenage Tamina double murder suspect could be tried as adult

By Jay R. Jordan, jjordan@hcnonline.com Updated 4:27 pm, Thursday, September 6, 2017



Roman Pray

Roddrick Jordan

Thomas Lizcano



Montgomery County Sheriff's detective Donna Rippley speaks about the investigation behind four arrests in the double homicide on July 20 in Tamina during an interview on Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.



Montgomery County Sheriff's detective Keith Echols speaks about the investigation behind four arrests in the double homicide on July 20 in Tamina during an interview on Monday, Aug. 7, 2017, at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

A 16-year-old accused of having an "active role" in the murder of two young Tamina residents in July might be tried as an adult. The juvenile, whose name was not released, is one of four people accused in the July 20 shooting that left Jaquise Williams, 23, and Akeem Russell, 24, dead. He and Conroe residents Roman Pray, 18, Tomas Lizcano, 17, and Roddrick Jordan, 30, were all charged in the shooting.

The teenager, Pray and Lizcano are charged with capital murder while Jordan is charged with aggravated robbery. Montgomery County Attorney J D Lambright told The Courier his office filed a motion to have the juvenile tried as an adult, meaning he could spend the rest of his life in prison if convicted.

In Texas, suspects are considered juveniles until they turn 17. The teenage murder suspect was weeks away from his birthday at the time of the shooting, Lambright said. "Based on our information from the investigation, that's how we're proceeding thus far," Lambright said. "His role in the case seems to be a very active role."

The teenager has been in trouble for theft and assaulting a public servant, Lambright said. He will undergo a full psychological evaluation before County Court-at-Law 1 Judge Dennis Watson determines whether or not the juvenile will be tried as an adult. The hearing should happen in the next four weeks, Lambright said. If he is not tried as an adult, he could ultimately be in prison for up to 40 years if convicted.

Court documents on Pray's case claim Pray and two others entered the home in the 9600 block of Bimms Drive where Williams and Russell were staying on July 20. Jordan, who was outside in a red car, told detectives he heard gun shots and saw the three others inside the house flee back to the car.

Jordan also told detectives that Pray said the shooting "wasn't supposed to go down like that" and claimed one of the victims "pulled a gun on us," according to court documents. Russell and Williams, along with Williams' 3-year-old daughter who was uninjured, were discovered by family members who had not heard from them that morning.

If convicted of capital murder, Pray could face the death penalty, while Lizcano could face life without parole. In Texas, defendants must be 18 years old to receive the death penalty. If Jordan is convicted, he could face 25 years to life in prison. Normal punishment for aggravated

robbery is five years to life; but due to Jordan's criminal history, the range is enhanced to 25 years to life.

Jordan's criminal history in Montgomery County stretches back to 2006 when he was arrested for possessing cocaine. He ultimately spent two years in prison for that charge after breaking the rules of his community supervision. He was again arrested in 2010 for possessing cocaine and was handed a 90-day jail sentence after pleading guilty.

In 2012, he was arrested for aggravated robbery but pleaded guilty for a 180-day jail sentence. That same year, he was arrested for illegally possessing a firearm as a felon and pleaded to another 180-day sentence. He most recently was handed a six-year prison sentence in 2013 for possessing cocaine with the intent to distribute. A spokesperson with the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles could not be reached.

Lizcano and Pray have no criminal history in Montgomery County, records indicate.