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Swiss national murdered in West Bay: says RCIPS

Published on Wednesday, February 13, 2008

The Royal Cayman Islands Police Service (RCIPS) has named the man who was found dead in West Bay on Friday, 8 February, and revealed he was murdered.

He was Swiss National Frederic Bise, 40, of Avoca Lane, off Mount Pleasant Road, West Bay. Mr Bise is understood from other sources to have been a banker with business interests on Grand Cayman.

His body was found in a Mitsubishi Outlander soon after 7:00 am on Friday morning after a member of the public called 911 to report a vehicle on fire. A post mortem has revealed he had suffered severe head injuries.

"This is a murder enquiry," said Senior Investigating Officer, Detective Superintendent Marlon Bodden. "We know that Mr Bise was killed before the car was set on fire. Our priority now is tracing his last movements. We are working hard to find out what happened to him and why. At this time we have no motive for the killing and it would be reckless of us, or anyone else, to speculate about what may or may not have taken place."

At a press conference held outside West Bay Police Station, DS Bodden confirmed that Mr Bise's family had been notified of his death and arrangements, which included access to Family Liaison Officers, were in place to take care of them.

Asked about a series of rumours concerning Mr Bise, which circulated after local residents discovered his identity, DS Bodden was quick to re-assure the public. "We will focus on fact, the truth is more important," he observed, also saying that such rumours were a normal reaction to this kind of incident.

The exact cause of the fire is still being investigated, but it is believed to have been started deliberately.

The RCIPS are appealing for anyone who saw Mr Bise in the last days of his life to come forward. "His last movements are crucial to us," observed DS Bodden. "We would like to hear from anyone who saw Mr Bise in the days leading up to his death, in particular, anyone who saw him on Thursday evening (February 7)."

In addition, officers are appealing for anyone who was in the area of Mount Pleasant Road, near the Pleasant View apartments overnight on Thursday, 7 February, into Friday, 8 February, and may have seen something suspicious to contact the West Bay Police Station on 949-3999 or Crime Stoppers on 800-8477 (TIPS). All persons calling Crime Stoppers can remain anonymous, and are eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000, should their information lead to an arrest or recovery of property/drugs.