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Charges filed in Hill murder case

Oct. 24 Crime Comments Off

By Traci Chapman

Formal charges have now been filed in the case of a missing Piedmont-area teen.

On Oct. 16, Oklahoma County prosecutors filed charges against 16-year-old Chadd Raymond and Chloe Thomas, 16, both of Oklahoma City. The pair were arrested earlier this month in connection with the April disappearance of Anne Hill, 16.

According to documents filed with Oklahoma State Court Network, Raymond was charged with first degree murder, while Thomas is accused of helping Raymond cover up his crime and was charged with accessory to first degree murder.

Investigators have been careful about the release of information in the case. Hill's body has not been found, although police said Thomas told them on Oct. 10 her version of events on April 11, when the Piedmont-area teen went missing.

During her Oct. 10 interview, prosecutors said Thomas told them Hill came to Raymond's apartment to see his older brother. The pair had initially told police when interviewed several months ago Hill left the apartment after becoming upset because Raymond's brother was not there.

Thomas changed her story on Oct. 10, police said. She now claims Raymond allegedly "attacked and strangled" the teen, although the motive for the alleged actions remains unknown, investigators said. Thomas allegedly told police she helped Raymond take Hill's body in the back seat of her own car to a wooded area. She told police she was not sure of the location, police said.

Oklahoma County prosecutors have handled murder cases in which a body has not been found, although such cases are rare and more difficult to prosecute, Assistant District Attorney Scott Rowland said. Prosecutors have not yet determined what penalty they will pursue against either Raymond or Thomas, he said.

Although both teens are minors under the law, because of the severity of the crimes with which they were charged their names were released, officials said. They will be tried as adults in connection with Hill's death.

Hill was last seen April 11. Officials with Piedmont Police Department said although she has been listed in media reports as a Piedmont resident, she actually lived in Oklahoma City limits, which necessitated investigation of the case by Oklahoma City police.

Raymond was arrested at his northwest Oklahoma City residence

A criminal probable cause action was filed Monday against Thomas and a miscellaneous criminal case filed against Raymond in Oklahoma County District Court, according to Oklahoma State Courts Network. Both filings were initial steps in moving forward with action against the pair, officials said. District Judge Donald Deason last week denied bail for Thomas; according to court personnel, both remained in jail on Monday.

Media reports have circulated concerning court documents allegedly filed in the case. Oklahoma County prosecutors and investigators both said additional details concerning the now suspected murder and arrests were not yet available.

"The investigation is ongoing," investigators said. "To protect the integrity of the investigation, we will not be able to discuss further details at this time and appreciate your understanding."



Anne Hill

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Hill was an honor student at Casady School and was last seen by her mother when she left her Piedmont area home to see a movie at a friend's house, Lori Hill said. Hill's car was found April 16 in Edmond; the teen was last seen in the north Oklahoma City/Edmond area about midnight the night she disappeared, investigators said.

Raymond and Thomas both attended Edmond Public Schools. Last week, the district posted a message concerning their arrest.

"Edmond Public Schools is shocked and saddened to learn that current student, Chadd Raymond, and former student Chloe Thomas, were each arrested on murder complaints this past weekend in connection with the disappearance of Piedmont teenager, Anne Hill," EPS posted on its website. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Hill's family and friends during this extremely difficult time."

Wardlow asked anyone with additional information that could aid investigators contact the homicide tip line at (405) 297-1200.

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