Beat: Local

Washington woman found dead after killer posts photos online

-, 05.11.2014, 20:06 Time

USPA News - Police in the U.S. state of Washington are investigating the murder of a woman whose body was discovered less than an hour after graphic photos of her body were posted online, authorities said on Wednesday. No arrests were immediately made.

The woman, who is believed to be in her early 30s, was found deceased in her house at the South Park Greens Apartments in Port Orchard at around 3:30 p.m. local time on Tuesday when her son returned home. The victim`s vehicle - a gold 2001 Ford Focus - was missing from the residence. The discovery came soon after an anonymous user of imageboard website 4chan posted three photographs of a woman`s body, claiming to have strangled a Port Orchard woman. The photos show a naked woman - who appears to have been posed on top of a pillow in the middle of a bed - with clear ligature marks around her neck. "Turns out its way harder to strangle someone to death than it looks like on the movies. She fought so damn hard," the first posts said, adding in another: "Check the news for port orchard Washington in a few hours. Her son will be home from school soon. He`ll find her, then call the cops. I just wanted to share the pics before they find me." It was not yet clear when the woman was murdered, but filenames of the photos suggested that they were taken just after 1 a.m. on Tuesday. The anonymous user added in his posts that he will attempt to trigger a police shooting when he is found, which prompted police to call in extra officers to the scene as a precaution. "I bought a bb gun that looks realistic enough. When they come, I`ll pull it and it will be suicide by cop," the posting said. Kitsap County Sheriff`s Office spokesman Deputy Scott Wilson would not say whether the photos posted online are authentic, but a neighbor who saw the photos said she was convinced that they show the woman who lived at the South Park Greens Apartments. "They (the photos) are graphic and very disturbing," Wilson said of the photos. No arrests were immediately made and police would not comment whether the victim`s boyfriend, who lived with her, was considered a suspect or whether he had been located. "We do not believe this is a random assault. We believe that this person was targeted," Wilson said. As a result of the ongoing investigation, all 16 school in the South Kitsap School District were put on a modified lockdown on Wednesday morning. "Local law enforcement is actively investigating an incident in the community and the suspect is at large. School will operate as normal within the buildings and all exterior doors will remain locked," the school district said in a note to parents.

Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-2887/washington-woman-found-dead-after-killer-posts-photos-online.html

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