

Girlfriend of alleged murderer is now charged in Paul Graupe case

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Wednesday, 20 March 2013 07:29 -

Charges have now been filed against the alleged girlfriend of the man accused of having killed Austin resident Paul Graupe in November, 2009, and hidden his body.

Lisa M. Pace, 40, has been charged with two Class C felonies of assisting a criminal and two Class D felonies, of obstruction of justice and theft. she was also charged with failure to report a body, a Class A misdemeanor in Indiana.

Paul Graupe disappeared a few days before Thanksgiving in 2009 after telling relatives he was going to go visit a man who owed him money. The 50-year-old was never seen alive again.

Officers with the Sheriff's Department had talked with Pace several times in the course of the investigation. On November 20, 2012, Pace was again interviewed. This time she reportedly admitted having seen Robert Lee Riley Jr. grab Graupe and appear to choke him from behind on November 24, 2009. She said the incident took place in a small duplex apartment in back of Riley's parents' home on West Main Street in Austin.

She claimed to have seen Graupe bleeding from his eyes and nose and that she believed he was killed in the attack.

She reportedly told officers that she saw Riley move Graupe into a bathroom initially. The body was then later moved into a hole in the duplex's kitchen floor. Her statement related that she said she helped Riley clean up blood from the floor and helped to dispose of the bloody rag and Graupe's keys.

Later, Riley showed her some \$600 in cash that he had allegedly taken from Graupe's body. Pace said they used the money to buy drugs. She went on to say, the probable cause affidavit stated, that she apparently fabricated a story about Graupe's body being placed in a well. That well was searched in June, 2011, without result.

Using her new information about where Graupe's body was located, sheriff's deputies found Graupe's nearly mummified remains in the duplex. An autopsy on the body indicated Graupe had died of "sharp force injuries" to the back of his torso. Riley, now charged in the murder, reportedly admitted to stabbing Graupe.

Pace has been given a jury trial date of May 16 in Scott Circuit Court. Her bond is set at \$50,000 corporate surety/full cash.

Pace was scheduled for a bond reduction hearing on March 19.

Riley has motioned for a continuance of his original trial date of April 16. It has now been rescheduled for July 15.

His charges include one count of murder, one count of felony murder, one count of Class A felony robbery, one count of Class B felony robbery and a count each of Class D felony removal of body from scene and obstruction of justice.

Both defendants remain behind bars.