

News Release

Broward Sheriff's Office • Department of Media Relations
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TIPSTER IN DEPUTY MURDER CASE GETTING HIS JUST REWARD

Homeless man helped capture Deputy Paul Rein's killer

**10 am Thursday, April 7th
BSO PSB, 2601 W. Broward Blvd., Ft. Laud. 33312**

Top members of the National Police Defense Foundation will present the final installment of a \$10,000 reward to the homeless man responsible for the arrest of convicted cop killer Michael Mazza.

NPDF Executive Director Joseph Occhipinti and NPDF President Jack Holder will be at BSO headquarters to hand a \$5,000 check to Mark Spradley. In 2007, Spradley was living in his 1975 Chevy Caprice and gave Michael Mazza a ride as Mazza fled after murdering BSO Deputy Paul Rein. Realizing that he was transporting the subject of an all-out manhunt, Spradley stopped his car outside a Hollywood pawn shop, went inside and urged the shopkeeper to call police. As a result, Mazza was apprehended.

The National Police Defense Foundation offers a \$10,000 Safe Cop reward for the arrest and conviction of anyone who kills a police officer. Because Mark Spradley was homeless, the NPDF made an exception and presented him with two \$2,500 payments, one immediately and one following Mazza's conviction. Now the NPDF will pay Spradley the balance of his reward.

On November 10, 2007, career criminal Michael Mazza, who claims to be disabled, was in a wheelchair and was being transported alone in a BSO Detention van driven by Dep. Paul Rein. Mazza whined for help and convinced Dep. Rein to stop the van and assist him in Pompano Beach. After Dep. Rein unlocked the van's rear door Mazza stood up, overpowered the deputy, took his gun and killed him. Mazza left Dep. Rein's body on the pavement and drove off in the van, abandoning it in Fort Lauderdale and then hitching a ride with Mark Spradley.

On Feb. 28, 2011, Mazza entered a guilty plea in Broward Circuit Court and was sentenced to four terms of life in prison. He is now serving that sentence.

This report by:

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