



**For Immediate Release:** 07.07.05

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**Police Continue to Seek Public Help in Homicide Investigation**

With the investigation of the brutal murder of resident Peter D'Agostino now well into the third week, Oak Park Police are continuing to ask for the public's help in identifying an individual seen in the area just prior to the crime.

Thousands of flyers bearing a computer-generated composite of the man and a description of a car he is believed to have been driving have been distributed throughout Oak Park and neighboring communities. Copies of the flyer also were distributed to all area news media outlets, posted on the Village's website [www.oak-park.us](http://www.oak-park.us) and cable television station, and hand delivered to the headquarters of each Chicago police district.

Police have fielded nearly 150 telephone calls generated by the flyer and widespread media coverage, interviewed neighborhood residents and talked to commuters who ride the Blue Line elevated train D'Agostino is believed to have been riding prior to being attacked within blocks of his home in southeast Oak Park.

D'Agostino, 42, was found unconscious in the 1100 block of South Harvey Avenue at 5:32 p.m., on June 22. He later died from blunt force trauma to the head, according to the Cook County Medical Examiner.

"A crime of this kind is shocking not only in its brutality, but also because of when and where it occurred," said Oak Park Police Chief Rick C. Tanksley. "I believe the individual who committed this crime will be found. But it will take a lot of hard, fundamental investigative work. And that sometimes takes time. In the meantime, we need the public's help and support."

Tanksley said he understands everyone's concern and knows residents have many questions – which is why he and his deputies accepted the invitation from Southeast Oak Park Community Organization (SEOPCO) to attend their neighborhood meeting tonight.

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"A police investigation of a crime of this kind requires a significant level of care and that often means not saying a lot publicly," the Chief explained. "We simply cannot risk statements that could jeopardize the investigation or, ultimately, the prosecution of the individual who committed this terrible crime. Right now, we need the public's trust and support."

Anyone with information about the individual depicted on the flyer police wish to question or anything that might be related to the crime are urged to call 708.386.3800, the Oak Park Police Station's main number, which is manned 24 hours a day. Callers can remain anonymous.

The individual police are seeking to question is described as a black male with medium complexion; in his mid 20's to mid-30's; five-feet-10 inches to six-feet-two inches tall; and thin to medium build. He was last seen wearing a white baseball cap or *doo rag*, white t-shirt and white nylon running pants with a black stripe on the leg. He is believed to be driving an older model, mid-sized passenger vehicle, turquoise or light blue, with a maroon or dark colored front passenger side fender.

Police stress that the individual depicted in the flyer is not a suspect, but a person of interest who can be placed on the block around the time of the homicide.

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