

Second man charged in murder

A second man is under arrest in connection with the 2001 murder of a man whose body was found slumped behind the wheel of a van in an industrial area of Woodbridge.

Joseph Nipitella, 34, of Vaughan is charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the death of Huy Long Nguyen, April 29, York Regional Police charged Douglas David Higham, 38, of no fixed address with first-degree murder in the same case.

Mr. Nguyen was found dead in a minivan on a company parking lot at the end of Freshway Drive, shortly before 3 a.m. July 30, 2001. He had been shot once in the head.

Det. Sgt. Les Young of the homicide squad would not talk about possible motives for the killing, but did say Mr. Nipitella had been under investigation for

some time before he was arrested.

"It was just a matter of crossing the Is and dotting the Is," he said.

Mr. Higham, the first suspect, had just finished serving time in jail for another crime when he was arrested.

Mr. Nguyen, a 35-year-old Toronto resident, arrived in Canada from Vietnam in 1992 and was a Canadian citizen. Police said, at the time, he had been arrested in the past for minor offences.

Police uncover fraud

A Gormley man has been charged with conspiracy to commit fraud after police said he tried to take the Toronto Transit Commission for a ride.

The man, who operates two injury rehabilitation centres in the GTA, is among four suspects charged after a staged accident involving a TTC bus and a rented

truck last month, according to Toronto police.

The scheme involved 44 people who were recruited to board the bus, then file accident claims for various injuries after the vehicle was hit from behind by a large U-Haul truck, the driver of which was involved in the plot, on Dawes Road in Toronto, Sept. 7, police said.

The group is believed to have gathered at the TTC's Main Street station to board the bus, police said. They were recruited by conspirators who paid them \$100 each to get on the bus, then file claims after the collision, police said.


The accident was very minor and TTC officials became suspicious when a flood of claims came pouring in.

Charged with conspiracy to commit fraud, attempted fraud and counselling to commit an indictable offence is a 37-year-old Gormley man. Three others face similar charges.

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