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CRIME

Accused killer who livestreamed slaying released, charges dropped

Gedeonson Hyacinthe, 42, faced charges of second-degree murder and aggravated assault with a firearm.



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Key Points

- State prosecutors have dropped all charges against a man accused of a livestreamed killing.
- Gedeonson Hyacinthe was arrested in July for a shooting that occurred in April 2025.
- The state dropped the charges due to changes in witness testimonies during trial preparations.

About two months after authorities arrested a man who livestreamed a killing, state prosecutors have dropped all charges against him when the case pointed to self-defense.

Lee County sheriff's deputies on July 15 arrested Gedeonson Hyacinthe, 42, after connecting him to an April 14, 2025, shooting death. Assistant State Attorney Andreas Gardiner on July 17 filed charges of second-degree murder and aggravated assault with a firearm.

Then, on Sept. 23, Gardiner filed a notice indicating the state would no longer pursue charges against Hyacinthe. The notice does not indicate why the state dropped the charges.

Lt. Sarah Rodriguez, sheriff's spokesperson, on Sept. 24 confirmed in an email that there are no outstanding suspects and that the case is closed.

Rodriguez said changes in testimonies during trial preparations have affected the state's ability to move forward with the case.

The sherif's office said that when law enforcement arrived at a reported shooting in the Pine Manor community April 15, 2025, they found Hyacinthe standing over a shooting victim.

Hyacinthe told deputies that he and the victim had "tussled" before the victim was shot.

After the victim was shot, and before law enforcement arrived, Hyacinthe began livestreaming on Facebook, recounting the events and showing the active crime scene, sheriff's officials said.

Hyacinthe was detained and questioned the same day as the incident but was later released as investigators probed the scene. He told authorities he had issues with the victim months before the killing. The victim's identity remains redacted in court filings.

Lee Circuit Judge Bruce Kyle on July 23 ordered Hyacinthe's remand into custody without bond. Lee County Jail records show he was released Sept. 24.

Hyacinthe was next due in court Sept. 24 for a case management conference before Lee Circuit Judge Bruce Kyle.

Defense attorney points to self-defense

Hyacinthe's defense attorney, Robert Harris, on Sept. 24 told The News-Press and Naples Daily News that state prosecutors closed the case and released Hyacinthe when the evidence pointed to self-defense.

Harris said that leading to the July 2025 slaying, the victim pointed a gun at Hyacinthe. Both fought for the weapon and Hyacinthe eventually got ahold of the firearm, shooting the victim, the defense attorney said.

The defense attorney said Hyacinthe's case is not the first time Harris has successfully argued self-defense.

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