

# Local man murdered

**By Nick Todaro**  
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Ruston police are on the hunt for suspects in the murder of a man whose body was discovered Thursday afternoon.

Lt. Curtis Hawkins, Ruston police public information officer, said officers with both the Ruston Police Department and Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office responded to a call reporting the discovery in a wooded area south of Martin Luther King Drive near the fairgrounds at about 3 p.m. The body was that of Christopher Tillman, 36, of 980 La. 146 in Ruston.

Tillman has a record with law enforcement. He was arrested Nov. 5 for marijuana possession

and distribution charges. Police are unsure of a connection at this time, Hawkins said, but are investigating the incident as a homicide because of what they discovered when they found the body. He would not release details.

"From the condition of the body, we are certain this was no suicide, and we are certain this was no accident," Hawkins said. "Someone wanted this man dead."

Anyone with information about the incident should call Crime Stoppers at 255-1111. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. Callers need not identify themselves.