

State to seek death penalty against Riviera Beach man in fatal Valentine's Day shooting



Gibson Paul



Kingsport (Tenn.) Police
Gibson Paul

By [Jane Musgrave](#)

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Updated: 4:16 p.m. Friday, April 22, 2011

Posted: 2:26 p.m. Thursday, April 21, 2011

WEST PALM BEACH — Prosecutors said today they will seek the death penalty against a 29-year-old Riviera Beach man accused of shooting to death his girlfriend and injuring another woman in February.

Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Karen Miller ordered that Gibson Paul undergo a mental health evaluation.

He has asked to fire his court-appointed attorney and Miller said she wants to know if he is competent to make such a decision.

Paul was arrested in Tennessee a day after he allegedly shot and killed his girlfriend, Tomicka Peterson and wounded another woman on Valentine's Day.

He threatened to kill any officer who tried to arrest him, police said. In the last 10 years, he has served three prison terms on such charges as battery, auto theft and weapons charges.