



# CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748  
CLEARWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT, 645 PIERCE STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756  
TELEPHONE (727) 562-4242

POLICE DEPARTMENT

## RELEASE 10-121

February 17, 2010

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## MURDER SUSPECT IN CUSTODY IN SUMTER COUNTY

**WHO:** Craig Wall (Suspect)

DOB: 3-21-75

Laura Taft (Victim/Deceased)

DOB: 1-15-81

**WHAT:** Homicide

**WHEN:** February 17, 2010

3:22 a.m.

**WHERE:** 470 Fairwood Avenue #153

Clearwater, Fla.

**WHY:** Clearwater Police responded to a call for a possible home invasion at Park Place Apartment #153. When police arrived, they found the victim immediately outside of her front doorway with multiple stab wounds. The victim died at the scene.

An initial investigation determined the suspect broke the rear sliding glass door and forced entry into the apartment. Once inside, the suspect argued with the victim. The argument resulted in the suspect stabbing the victim. A neighbor heard the commotion and called police.

The suspect was seen leaving the area in a red, four-door, older-model vehicle with a white top. The car was located near Wildwood in Sumter County by the Sumter County Sheriff's Office and the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect will be extradited back to Pinellas County.





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Detectives believe this homicide is related of the death of Taft and Wall's infant, Craig Wall, Jr. on February 5, 2010. This case is still under investigation. The cause and manner of death are yet to be determined by the Medical Examiner's Office. For additional information on that case, go to [www.clearwaterpolice.org](http://www.clearwaterpolice.org) (News Releases).

Following the infant's death, the victim had recently relocated to a new apartment. She also obtained an injunction against the suspect due to the circumstances surrounding their child's death. There are no prior reports of domestic violence between the suspect and victim with the Clearwater Police Department.

The victim has a 6-year-old son who was not home at the time of the murder, but was staying and will remain in the care of a relative.

