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(SD)-Guilty Plea Expected In 2016 Pine Ridge Murder

By: John Axtell Posted at: 06/06/2019 11:57 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - One of 6 people charged in connection with an October 2016 murder on the Pine Ridge Reservation is scheduled for a change-of-plea hearing next Wednesday in federal court in Rapid City.

Myles Tuttle has signed a factual basis document agreeing to plead guilty to accessory after the fact to 1st-degree murder in the drug-related shooting death of 29-year old Vincent Brewer III.

In return, prosecutors will drop charges kidnapping, conspiracy to commit assault, and alternative counts of premeditated 1st-degree murder and felony murder - the latter for a death occurring during another crime, in this case kidnapping. Prosecutors will also recommend a sentence of 10-to-15 years in prison.

In the factual basis document, Tuttle admits helping Francisco Villanueva, Adan Corona and Estevan Baquera - accused of being the actual shooters - escape from the Pine Ridge Reservation by swapping license plates on a vehicle and dumping it in White Clay.

Their indictments say the trio had multiple guns when they drove from Denver to Rapid City to meet up with Tuttle, then drive on Pine Ridge to kidnap Brewer to collect a drug debt. The shooting occurred as they tried to force Brewer into a vehicle outside a Pine Ridge youth center where Brewer had been at a basketball tournament.

Two other people have been charged in the case. Tiffanee Garnier is charged with being an accessory and admitted driving one of 2 vehicles to the youth center, and Jason Baca, who was indicted just last month for attempted witness tampering for trying to intimidate Garnier and keep her from testifying. He has yet to make his first court appearance.