

Willowbrook exec kills family, self

Wife, mother-in-law, sister-in-law shot to death in Ohio

By ROBERT A. WILLIAMS

The personnel director of the Staten Island Developmental Center shot to death his wife, mother-in-law and sister-in-law in Dayton, Ohio, Sunday, then killed himself with a bullet to the head.

Marital difficulties reportedly led to the triple murder and suicide.

Dayton police last night confirmed that Demetrius Bumbrey, 30, killed the three women Sunday in the house in which they lived. He reportedly handcuffed the trio together and shot them repeatedly at close range with a shotgun.

He then shot himself with a pistol.

Although police said Bumbrey had a Dayton address, Elin Howe, developmental center director, said last night that Bumbrey was on leave from the institution since June. Miss Howe would give no other information about Bumbrey's employment status.

Bumbrey's last Island address was 937 Victory Blvd., Silver Lake. It was unclear last night whether he still lived at that location.

Dayton police could not immediately determine how long Bumbrey lived in the Ohio city. Because there was no apparent connection at the time of the murders between Bumbrey and Staten Island, news of the killings was not flashed to Staten Island police.

Dayton police said that Bumbrey's wife, Betty, 27, served him with court papers last week in an apparent attempt to start divorce proceedings. According to police, she hid from her husband because she feared for her safety.

Bumbrey reportedly located his wife

Sunday afternoon at the home of her mother.

Police say he broke into the house and handcuffed together his wife, mother-in-law, Mrs. Claudia Pierce Floyd, and sister-in-law, 25-year-old Joyce Floyd.

Bumbrey reportedly shot them with a 12-gauge pump shotgun.

Police said the women died instantly.

Bumbrey reportedly then drew a .32 caliber revolver and shot himself in the head. He was rushed to Miami Valley Hospital where he died at 6:30 p.m., a few hours after the shooting.

Bumbrey was indicted by a Staten Island grand jury in May 1976 and charged with rape and felonious assault.

He was accused of choking the victim, a 23-year-old Brooklyn woman, and attacking her in a car at Tysen St. and Richmond Terr., New Brighton, a few weeks earlier.

A Supreme Court jury, deliberating less than half an hour, acquitted Bumbrey of the charges a year later.

He was not suspended from his job as personal director at the state institution from the time of his arrest, but instead continued to draw a salary.

Bumbrey was born in Birmingham, Ala., and was brought to Staten Island as a youngster. He grew up in West Brighton and, as a youth, was a member of the junior choir of St. Philip's Baptist Church, Port Richmond.

He was graduated from Curtis High School in 1966 and received his bachelor's degree from Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea Ohio, in 1971. He attended

the New York University School of Law.

Bumbrey was a counselor at Mount Loretto and a management trainee at a Manhattan bank.

He joined the Staten Island Developmental Center as a personnel assistant and advanced to acting director of personnel. He reportedly had been director of personnel since at least June 1977.

Police said last night that at the time of his death Bumbrey was an agent for the Allstate Insurance Co., Dayton.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bumbrey, and a sister, Jacqueline, all of St. George; his maternal grandparents, Bishop and Mrs. Leonard Sanders of Birmingham, Ala., and his paternal grandmother, Mattie Weary of Newcastle, Ala.

The funeral will be Saturday from the Charles Butts Funeral Home, Brooklyn, with a service at 10 a.m. in St. Philip's Baptist Church, Port Richmond. Burial will be in Moravian Cemetery.