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S. Phila. man charged with killing wife's lover

by **Sam Wood, Inquirer Staff Writer**, Posted: March 19, 2009

Homicide detectives didn't buy the rape story.

A South Philadelphia man said he had killed another man Sunday night after coming home to discover the stranger sexually assaulting his wife.

When the detectives arrived on the 1700 block of South 22d Street, they found Lateaf Dumas, 31, bludgeoned to death with a hammer and a shovel in an upstairs bedroom.

Levi Thompson, 27, told them that he had been defending the love of his life when he cracked Dumas' skull. Thompson's wife, Sharleetha Brown, initially corroborated the story.

But during questioning, Brown, 20, recanted and said she had been having an affair with Dumas, police said.

Thompson was charged with murder yesterday. Brown was charged with filing a false report.

"She made up the story because she had been caught in the bedroom," said Lt. Frank Vanore, a police spokesman.

Thompson had come home "with the sole purpose of catching them in the act," Vanore said. "Then he went into a rage when he discovered them together and killed Dumas."

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