

Anti-virus legend McAfee wanted for murder in Belize

BELIZE CITY, BELIZE: John McAfee, founder of the eponymous anti-virus company, is on the run for killing another US citizen in a resort town, Belizean police said on Monday (12 November).

Police raided McAfee's mansion on Ambergris Caye, an island off the north-eastern coast of Belize, to question him about the murder of American Gregory Faull. But McAfee was nowhere to be found, said the head of the country's anti-organised crime brigade, Marco Vidal.

Vidal told reporters that McAfee was wanted "for homicide."

But McAfee told the US magazine *Wired* that he was in fact hiding on the property at the time, burying himself in the sand with a cardboard box over his head in order to breathe.

"It was extraordinarily uncomfortable," he said. "But they will kill me if they find me."

Vidal's officers searched McAfee's mansion several months ago looking for weapons and drugs and detained him for several hours.

McAfee claims he was arrested at the time because he refused to make a donation to a local politician's campaign.

Florida native Faull, 52, was found dead at his home by his housekeeper Sunday (11 November) morning.

At the crime scene, investigators found a 9mm shell, "consistent with the wound in the back of Faull's neck," said National Security Ministry spokesman Rafael Martinez.

A police report said there were no signs of a break-in, and that a laptop and cell phone were missing.

Residents of the island, known for scuba diving, tropical fishing and its American expatriate community, told the website *Gizmodo* that Faull and McAfee had a recent fallout.

According to *Gizmodo*, which quoted locals speaking on condition of anonymity, McAfee had displayed increasingly erratic behavior and was estranged from the expatriate community.

Gizmodo also reported that McAfee had been experimenting with psychoactive drugs.

Asked about the shooting of his neighbour, McAfee told *Wired* that he knew "nothing" other than Faull had been shot. The

anti-virus pioneer even said he was worried that Faull's killers had actually been looking for him.

"Under no circumstances am I going to willingly talk to the police in this country," he told *Wired*. "You can say I'm paranoid about it but they will kill me, there is no question. They've been trying to get me for months. They want to silence me. I am not well liked by the prime minister. I am just a thorn in everybody's side."

McAfee has been living in Belize, a former British colony, for the past four years.

The 67-year-old made millions when he sold his anti-virus software company in the early 1990s.

Source: *AFP* via I-Net Bridge

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>