

## **Media Information**

## Columbus Division of Police Homicide Bureau / HomicideTeam 5 Unit

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Soviak Phone: (614) 645 - 4730

Ext: 4938

Date: 11/28/2023

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide Date: 11/27/2023 Time: 6:39pm

Location of Offense/Incident: 1100 Block of E Weber Rd Zone: 6 Precinct: 2

Incident Report #: 230913089	Cruiser District: 24		
Victim: Kenjuan K. Howard	Sex: M	Race: B	Age: 26
Victim: #2 Juvenile	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim: #3 Juvenile	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Suspect: Payton B. Rice	Address:		
	Sex: M	Race: W	Age: 17
Charges: Murder/Felonious Assault			
Suspect:	Address:		
☐ Arrested ☐ Warrant on File	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Charges:			

Incident Summary: \*\*\*Update: November 28, 2023, officers were dispatched to the area of McGuffey Rd. and Weber Rd. on an unknown disturbance. Patrol and other officers responded to the area and were able to locate the suspect from the shooting that occurred in the 1100 block of E. Weber Rd. The suspect, Payton B. Rice, was charged with the murder of Kenjuan K. Howard and two counts of felonious assault. He was slated at the Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center. Persons of interest #2 and #3 are no longer persons of interest in this case.\*\*\*

\*\*\*Update: November 28, 2023, the victim from this incident has been identified as Kenjuan K. Howard, the next of kin notification has been made.\*\*\*

On November 27, 2023, at approximately 6:39pm, victim #1 and three persons of interest were seen in the 1100 block of E. Weber Rd. The involved parties had a conversation and were seen leaving the area in different directions. At some point, shots were fired, which struck victim #1. Columbus Fire Medic 16 personnel arrived at the scene and pronounced victim #1 deceased at 6:45pm. If anyone knows the identities of the three persons of interest, you are asked to call the Columbus Police Homicide Unit at 614-645-2228 or Detective Soviak at 614-774-7660. The identity of the victim is being withheld pending notification of the next of kin.

Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to call Columbus Police Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477). Detective Soviak is the lead detective on the case and is being assisted by Detective Brammer.

Copy To: ⊠ Executive Staff ⊠ Bureau Commander ⊠ Public Information Office

Prepared By: Sqt. E.J. Powell III #5175 Assignment: Homicide Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730

Approved By: Sgt. E.J. Powell III #5175 Assignment: Homicide