



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 10:00 a.m., CDT**

**Media Release No. 112**

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Public Information Officer  
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## **Homicide Investigation Update**

*Original Release Below*

The Birmingham Police Department reports an arrest has been made in connection to the homicide of Patrick Wayne Watson Jr.

The suspect has been identified as  
**Vonta Antawyn Harris, (35), B/M, of Birmingham, Alabama.**

Detectives presented the information gathered on the case to the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office for review. Following the assessment, a **Murder** warrant was obtained for the suspect. The suspect is in the custody of the Jefferson County Jail with a **\$150,000 bond.**

See the attached mugshot.

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## **Homicide Investigation**

*Media Release. 110*

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives are conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on Monday May 25, 2020.

The victim's has been identified as  
**Patrick Watson Jr, (39), B/M, of Birmingham, Alabama.**

At approximately 3:00 a.m., Officers from the West Precinct responded to the 2300 block of Tempest Drive on a call of a person shot. Officers arrived and discovered a male in the living room area of the apartment on the floor unresponsive. The male suffered from multiple gunshot wounds. Birmingham Fire and Rescue responded to the scene and provided medical aid, however the victim succumb to his injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. Officers also discovered another male outside the apartment lying in the grass suffering from a gunshot wound. The subject was transported to UAB Hospital with life threatening injuries.

The preliminary investigation suggest both males were at the same apartment when a verbal altercation ensued. The altercation escalated resulting in both men wounding the other. This is an ongoing investigation.

**If there is anyone who has information pertaining to the case, please contact the B.P.D. Homicide Unit @ 205-254-1764 or Crime Stoppers @ 205-254-7777.**

**This is Birmingham's 42<sup>nd</sup> homicide investigation of 2020 and 5 justifiable death investigations. *The Birmingham Police Department adheres to FBI Uniform Crime Reporting guidelines set for all law enforcement agencies across the United States. FBI Uniform Crime Reporting guidelines do not require law enforcement agencies to include justifiable death investigations into the total homicide investigations counts.***

*\*The information is based on a preliminary and ongoing investigation, which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed\*\**

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