



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 19, 2021, 9:30 p.m., CDT

Media Release No. 75

Officer Truman Fitzgerald
Media Relations Officer / Public Information Division
(205) 254-2065 - Office

Homicide Investigation

The Birmingham Police Department is conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on Friday, March 19, 2021.

**The victim has been identified as:
Lazonathan Rhodes, (25), B/M, of Birmingham, Alabama.**

At approximately 3:50 p.m., East Precinct officers responded to 9120 Parkway East (Roebuck Plaza Shopping Center) on report of a person shot. Officers arrived on the scene and made contact with one shooting victim in the parking lot of the shopping center. That victim was transported to UAB Hospital where the victim was pronounced deceased upon arrival. Additionally, officers learned a second gunshot victim arrived at St. Vincent's East Hospital by way of personal vehicle. The second gunshot victim suffered a non-life-threatening injury.

The preliminary investigation suggests an argument ensued in the parking lot of the shopping center which ultimately led to shots being fired. Both parties who were struck by gunfire are believed to have been involved in the initial altercation. At this time, multiple vehicles were struck by gunfire; however, **no businesses nor bystanders were struck by gunfire.**

Officers detained a person of interest on the scene for questioning.

If there is anyone who has additional 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 19th murder investigation of 2021 with 1 justifiable homicide ruling.

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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