



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Release No. 276

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

Reclassification-Justifiable Death Ruling

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives have received a ruling in connection to the homicide investigation of Ahmad Cockrell. The incident occurred on Wednesday, September 22, 2021.

Investigators presented the information gathered to the Jefferson County District Attorney's office for review. Following the assessment, the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office ruled the actions justifiable. This investigation is reclassified as a **Justified Death Investigation**.

The Birmingham Police Department has 92 murders thus far in 2021 and 13 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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Homicide Investigation

(Media Release 228)

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives are conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 in the Morton Simpson Housing Community.

The victim has been identified as:

Ahmad Cockrell, B/M, (21), of Bessemer, Alabama.

At approximately 9:35 p.m. the 911 Communication Division received a ShotSpotter alert of eight rounds fired in the 900 block of 44 th Place North along with an emergency call of two people shot. Officers arrived to 925 44th Place North where they discovered two adult males wounded by gunfire. A male was observed wounded but responsive. He was transported to UAB Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Another adult male was observed outside on the ground unresponsive. He was pronounced deceased by Birmingham Fire and Rescue.

The preliminary investigation indicates both males were acquaintances who became involved in a verbal argument that escalated to an exchange of gunfire. This was an isolated incident that occurred at a private residence. There were no additional injuries to other residence of the Morton Simpson Housing Community in connection to this incident. The surviving party will be questioned by detectives upon release from the hospital. This is an ongoing investigation. Updates will be provided as this case develops.

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

This is Birmingham's 72nd murder investigation of 2021 and 12 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.](#)

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