



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Officer Truman Fitzgerald

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Arrest Made in the 20-Year-Old Wesley Powell III Homicide Investigation

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives have obtained a warrant for an arrest in connection to the 20-Year-Old Homicide Investigation of Wesley Powell III.

On Wednesday, **December 5, 2001**, at around 2:15 PM, at 707 8th Avenue North (Wavaho Service Station) Wesley Powell III was shot while inside his vehicle. He was transported to UAB Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries on Thursday, **December 6, 2001**. A young black male reportedly stood inside the open passenger door of the victim's vehicle and fired several shots. The shooter then fled on foot. Detectives developed leads in the case that allowed BPD to seek an arrest warrant.

The suspect has been identified as:

Rickey Ricardo Witherspoon, (46), B/M, of Bessemer, Alabama.

Birmingham Police Detectives presented information on the case to the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office. After an assessment of the information, detectives obtained a warrant for **Capital Murder**.

The Birmingham Police Department's Crime Reduction Team took Rickey Ricardo Witherspoon into custody free of any incident.

Rickey Ricardo Witherspoon is in the custody of the Jefferson County Jail with **No Bond**.

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