

# For Immediate Release

Media Release No. 73

Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:10 P.M., CDT

## **Officer Truman Fitzgerald**

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### Arrest Made in the 2020 Lamar Harris Homicide Investigation

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives have obtained warrants for an arrest in connection to the murder of Lamar Markeith Harris. Lamar Harris was shot and killed on Sunday, June 14, 2020, while he was in the 7600 Block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South.

The arrest was made possible by the BPD Detective Bureau working together and continuing to develop leads in this investigation.

During a lengthy investigation, BPD Homicide detectives identified a suspect.

The suspect has been identified as: Torace Jahkino Laster, (25), B/M, of Center Point, 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 warrants for Murder (No Bond) and Certain Persons Forbidden to Possess a Firearm (\$15,000).

Torace Laster is currently in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He is housed at a Federal Correctional Institute in Memphis, Tennessee.

Torace Laster will remain in Tennessee until brought to Jefferson County to face charges related to the Lamar Harris Homicide Investigation.

The motive in this homicide appears to be Torace Laster was upset with the victim over a reported theft the victim committed.

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#### Homicide Investigation (Media Release 2020-122)

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives are conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on Sunday, June 14, 2020.

The victim has been identified as Lamar Harris, (26), B/M, of Birmingham, Alabama.

At approximately 12:15 a.m., Officers from East Precinct responded to a Shot Spotter call of multiple rounds fired in the 7600 Block of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. Upon arrival they discovered the victim lying in the front yard of a residence unresponsive suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Birmingham Fire and Rescue responded to the scene and pronounced the victim deceased.

The preliminary investigation suggests the victim was riding a bicycle when he was shot.

There is no suspect(s) in custody and investigators have not established a motive in this homicide.

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 44th homicide investigation of 2020 with 8 justifiable death investigations and 1 non-criminal homicide. 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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