



For Immediate Release

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Arrest Made in the Areyelle Yarbrough Homicide Investigation

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives have obtained a warrant for an arrest in connection to the murder of Areyelle Yarbrough. Areyelle Yarbrough was shot and killed on **Easter Sunday 2021**, at Patton Park (1200 Sipsey Street).

The suspect has been identified as:

Jalynd Rayford, (22), B/M, of Birmingham, Alabama.

On Friday, August 25, 2023, 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 **Murder**.

On Thursday, September 7, 2023, the U.S. Marshal's Service Southeast Regional Task Force along with the Georgia State Patrol and the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office arrested Jalynd Rayford at an apartment complex in Snellville, Georgia.

Jalynd Rayford is currently in the custody of the Gwinnett County Jail (GA) awaiting extradition to Alabama where he will be transported to the Jefferson County Jail with **No Bond**.

The Birmingham Police Department would like to thank our community members along with our local, state, and federal law enforcement partners for their assistance in this investigation.

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Multiple Shot, One Deceased at Patton Park *(Media Release 86-2021)*

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives are conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on **Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021**.

The deceased victim has been identified as:
Areyelle Yarbrough, (32), B/F, of Bessemer, Alabama.

Just after 7:00 p.m., Birmingham Police Officers responded to Patton Park, located at 1200 Sipse Street, on a call of multiple people shot in the park. At the time the shooting occurred, hundreds of people were gathered at the park celebrating the Easter Holiday when gunfire erupted. Officers arrived and discovered the victim, Areyelle Yarbrough lying on the ground just outside the passenger door of her vehicle. The victim's injuries proved to be fatal; Yarbrough was pronounced deceased on scene.

Five additional victims sustained gunshot wounds. The surviving victims consists of one adult and four juveniles ranging from age five to seventeen years of age. Two of the juveniles were transported to Children's Hospital of Alabama by Birmingham Fire and Rescue. The additional victims were transported to local area hospitals by private vehicles. All five surviving victims' conditions are listed as stable.

The preliminary investigation indicates the shooting stemmed from an altercation amongst two groups of males which escalated to an exchange of gunfire in the crowded park. Evidence collected indicates over 30 rounds were fired. Detectives have obtained witness accounts; however, additional witnesses are encouraged to come forward.

No arrests have been made in this investigation.

If there is anyone who has additional information pertaining to the case, please contact [Crime Stoppers @ 205-254- 7777](tel:205-254-7777). If your tip leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a cash reward.

This is Birmingham's 22nd murder investigation of 2021 with 2 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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