UPDATE #4 Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery Shooting Confirmed to Be a Homicide

Bear – The Delaware State Police have confirmed that an 85 year old female, and 86 year old male, husband and wife from Elkton, Maryland were the victims of a shooting that took place earlier today on the grounds of the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, located at 2465 Chesapeake City Rd., in Bear.

At approximately 10:13 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2020 Troopers were dispatched to the cemetery for a report of shots being fired. The first arriving officers on scene located the victims and confirmed that they both had sustained gunshot wounds. The female victim was pronounced deceased at the scene, the male was transported to an area hospital in critical condition. Initial reports from the scene also advised that a subject had been seen running into an adjacent wooded area immediately after the gunshots were heard.

At approximately 11:08 a.m., officers on scene observed a male subject running into a wooded area, between the cemetery and Brennan Blvd., in the development of Brennan Estates. Officers immediately secured the area where the subject was observed.

At approximately 12:08 p.m., an exchange of gunfire took place between officers on scene and the suspect in the wooded area. During this exchange no law enforcement officers were injured.

At approximately 4:00 p.m., officers made entry in to the wooded area where they located the suspect who was confirmed to be deceased. They also observed that the suspect, a 29 year old Middletown man, had sustained an apparent gunshot wound. It is undetermined at this time if the gunshot wound was self-inflicted or as a result of the earlier exchange of gunfire.

The Delaware Division of Forensic Science will perform autopsies to determine the cause and manner of the deaths.

During the course of the incident, communication had been made with area residents via a reverse 911 call, and advised to shelter in place. Some residents who were in closer proximity to the incident were temporarily evacuated. Multiple area roadways were also closed during the operation.

Upon locating the suspect the area was deemed secure at which time the evacuees were able to return home and roadways were re-opened. Based on the nature of the incident a large police presence remained in the area as part of the ongoing investigation.

While the Delaware State Police are the primary investigating agency, during today's operation they received assistance from multiple allied agencies from the federal, state and local levels, who provided manpower and resources, to include the ATF, FBI, U.S. Marshals, DNREC, New Castle County P.D., Wilmington P.D., Dover P.D., Newark P.D., N.C.C. EMS and DELDOT.

The investigation is active and ongoing and will be furthered by the Delaware State Police Homicide Unit. Anyone with information regarding the incident is asked to contact Det. M. Ryde by calling 302-698-8557.

Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

Click on the following links to view related releases:

Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

UPDATE- Road Closure- Summit Bridge Rd Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

UPDATE #2- Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint-

Bear

UPDATE #3 – Situation Resolved Troopers Investigating Shooting Incident – Bear

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 050820 2040

-End-

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*UPDATE #3 – Situation

Resolved Troopers Investigating Shooting Incident – Bear

Bear – The Delaware State Police are confirming that the the shooting incident that occurred at approximately 10:13 a.m., this morning at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, located on Chesapeake City Rd. has been resolved.

The suspect responsible for the initial shooting of two subjects on the cemetery property, and who also had an exchange of gunfire with officers, was located deceased in the wooded area where the exchange of gunfire took place.

At this time the area is secure and there is no threat to public safety. The investigation is ongoing therefore a significant police presence will remain in and around the area for several hours.

Further details will be released as they become available.

Click on the following links to view related releases:

UPDATE- Road Closure- Summit Bridge Rd Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

UPDATE #2- Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

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UPDATE #2- Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

Bear- The Delaware State Police are continuing to investigate a shooting incident that occurred earlier today.

The incident occurred on Friday, May 8, 2020 at approximately 10:13 a.m., when Troopers were dispatched to the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery located at 2465 Chesapeake City Road, for a report of shots being fired. Upon arrival, Troopers located two adults, one male and one female, who both sustained gunshot wounds.

The operation is continuing at this time and is being focused in the area of Summit Bridge Road (Rt. 896) and Brennan Blvd, Bear. As this is an active and ongoing investigation there continues to be a heavy police presence in the area.

Communication has been made with affected area residents who were advised to shelter in place. Some area residents have

been evacuated temporarily.

As a result of this operation the following road closures are in affect.

- Summit Bridge Rd. Rt. 896) northbound at Bethel Church Rd.
- Red Lion Rd. (Rt.71) at Howell School Rd.
- Fraser Rd. at Chesapeake City Rd.
- Summit Bridge Rd. (Rt. 896) southbound at County Rd.

This is an active and ongoing investigation with further details being released as they become available.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released:050820 1600

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UPDATE- Road Closure- Summit Bridge Rd Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

Bear– The Delaware State Police are currently on scene of a shots fired incident. As a result, all lanes Northbound and Southbound of Summit Bridge Road will be closed at Bethel Church Rd.

Motorists will experience delays in the area and are advised to seek alternate routes of travel.

For updated traffic conditions and road closure information, log on to http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel_advisory/index.shtml#advisories.

For original release please see link below:

Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Heather Pepper

Released:050820 1126

-End-

Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Complaint- Bear

Bear- The Delaware State Police are currently investigating a shots fired incident.

Preliminary information has the incident occurring on May 8, 2020 at approximately 10:13 a.m., when Troopers were dispatched to the 2000 block of Chesapeake City Road, for a report of shots being fired.

There is heavy police activity in the area and motorist should expect delays and seek alternate routes of travel.

The investigation is in the early stages with further information being released as it becomes available.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 050820 1042

-End-

UPDATE – Victim Identified Troopers Investigating Fatal Crash – North Wilmington

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police have identified 24 year old, Yahmeya Wallace of Darby, PA, as the driver of a Nissan Altima, who was killed in a motor vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 11:32 p.m., Wednesday, May 6, 2020, on Rt. 202 (Concord Pike) in the area of Woodrow Avenue.

Click on the following link to view to view the original release: Troopers Investigating Fatal Crash – North Wilmington

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding the incident is asked to contact Cpl. J. Breen of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-365-8486.

http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Released:050820 0900

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Troopers Investigating Fatal Crash – North Wilmington

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal motor vehicle crash that occurred at approximately 11:32 p.m., Wednesday, May 6, 2020 on Rt. 202 (Concord Pike) in the area of Woodrow Avenue.

The initial investigation has determined that a 2012 Nissan Altima, driven by a 24 year old Darby, PA woman, was stopped in the exit lane of the BP gas station, located on the northbound side of Rt. 202, at the intersection with Woodrow Ave. A 2002 Toyota Highlander, driven by a 19 year old Newark woman, was traveling northbound on Rt. 202 in the center lane, approaching Woodrow Ave. The Toyota drifted off the right side of the road, with its front end striking the left side of the Nissan. After the initial impact, the Nissan was forced into a guardrail and then a utility pole, before coming to rest in the parking lot of an adjacent business. The Toyota continued traveling in a northwesterly direction, crossing the northbound lanes of Rt. 202

and the center median, before coming to rest in the southbound lanes of Rt. 202 facing north.

The driver of the Nissan, who was not seat belted, was pronounced deceased at the scene. Identification is pending notification of next of kin.

The driver of the Toyota, who was wearing a seatbelt, was transported to the Christiana Hospital and treated for non-life threatening injuries.

Impairment is not deemed a contributing factor in the crash.

All lanes of Rt. 202 between Woodrow Avenue and Nichols Avenue were closed for approximately 4 hours while the scene was investigated and cleared.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding the incident is asked to contact Cpl. J. Breen of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-365-8486.

http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

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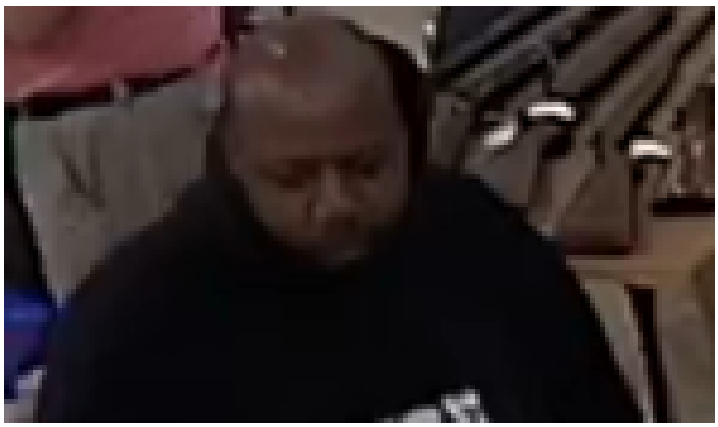
Troopers Attempt to Identify Burglary Suspects- New Castle

New Castle– The Delaware State Police are continuing to investigate a burglary that occurred on February 15, 2020, at the Nur Shrine Temple located at 198 South DuPont Highway, New Castle, and are asking for the public's help in identifying the suspects. During the burglary, three suspects removed items that were on display for sale. The following pictures were obtained through video surveillance footage.



Suspect #1 is described as a black male, approximately 50-60

years old, wearing glasses, a black ¼ zip sweatshirt, white undershirt, black pants, black sneakers with white soles, and carrying a black jacket.



Suspect #2 is described as a black male, approximately 30 years old, bald, larger build, wearing a black “hundred dollar bill” hooded sweatshirt, dark pants, and black boots.



Suspect #3 is described as a black male, large build, wearing sunglasses, a dark blue down jacket, gray zip-front sweatshirt with a dark hood, white Nike sneakers with a black swoosh symbol.

Anyone with information regarding the identity or whereabouts of the pictured suspects is asked to contact Detective. B. Harris of the Troop 2 Criminal Investigative Unit by calling 302-365-8410. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet

at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Senior Corporal Heather Pepper.

Released:050620 1720

-End-

Newark Man Arrested for Multiple Commercial

Burglaries Committed During One Night- New Castle

New Castle– Delaware State Police have arrested **23-year-old Isiah R. Church of Newark**, for multiple commercial burglaries that began during the late hours of May 4th into the early morning hours of May 5, 2020.

On May 4, 2020, at 9:55 p.m., Troopers were dispatched to NY Fried Chicken, located at 3900 North DuPont Highway, New Castle, for a reported burglary. Upon arrival, Troopers discovered the side glass door had been shattered. Through investigative measures, it was determined the suspect entered the business and removed the cash register before fleeing on foot.

During the investigation of the burglary, Church was identified as the suspect through video surveillance footage. After the burglary, Church responded to his mother's residence in Newark, and engaged in a verbal argument with her. Before the police arrived on the scene, Church fled the area and responded to the CVS store located at 1545 Pulaski Highway and shattered the front glass door of the business. Church was unsuccessful in gaining entry into the store.

After the unsuccessful attempt at gaining entry into CVS, Church responded to the Game Changers bar located at 1430 Pulaski Highway and was able to gain entry into the business through the front doors. While inside, he removed the cash register before fleeing on foot.

After leaving Game Changers bar, Church went to Seasons Pizza, located at 1460 Pulaski Highway, and shattered the front door of the business to gain entry. Once inside, he ransacked the front register area and stole money before fleeing the scene and responding to Ambassadors Liquors located at 1466 Pulaski Hwy. Church shattered the glass door to Ambassadors Liquors and removed the cash register and a bottle of Hennessy Liquor before fleeing on foot.

After the Ambassadors Liquors burglary, Church was located on foot in the Wellington Woods community and taken into custody without incident.

Church was charged with the following crimes by the Delaware State Police:

Burglary 3rd Degree (Felony- 3 counts)

Attempt to Commit Burglary 3rd Degree (Felony)

Theft under $1500 (3 counts)

Criminal Mischief Less than $5,000

Criminal Mischief Under $1,000 (4 counts)

Failure to Obey an Emergency Order

Church was arraigned by Justice of the Peace Court and was issued a $13,500.00 secure bond and committed to Howard R Young Correctional Institution.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Released: 050620 1651

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Update- State Police Conducting Death Investigation Ruled Homicide- Laurel

Laurel- The Delaware State Police Homicide Unit is currently conducting a death investigation that has been ruled a homicide following a stabbing incident that occurred in mid-April.

The incident occurred on April 18, 2020 at approximately 2:53 a.m., when Troopers were made aware that several victims had responded in a vehicle to the Laurel Police Department seeking assistance after being involved in an altercation in the area of Susan Beach Road, Laurel. The four victims appeared to have been suffering from apparent stab wounds.

The four juvenile male victims were transported to a local area hospital. A 16-year-old male victim sustained an apparent stab wound to his upper torso and was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The other three victims ages 13-16 sustained non-life threatening injuries.

Through further investigations it was learned that the victims were at a residence on Susan Beach Road, Laurel, when a fight ensued. During the course of the fight, all four victims sustained stab wounds.

The investigation continues to remain active and ongoing with charges forthcoming. Anyone with information in reference to this case, is asked to contact Detective M. Csapo of the Homicide Unit at 302-741-2729. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

State Police Conducting Death Investigation-Laurel

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

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