
NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar
Chief of Police

Contact: Francisco Magos
Officer / Public Information Office
520-791-4852
On-call PIO: tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov

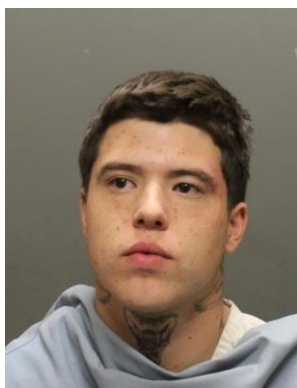
Date: 3/24/2022
TDD: 791-2639

HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION 7100 BLOCK OF SOUTH 12TH AVENUE

*****UPDATE – MARCH 26, 2022*****

Tucson Police Homicide Detectives have made an arrest in the double homicide that occurred on March 23, 2022. As detectives continued their investigation, they obtained a description of a vehicle - which was seen leaving the area after the shooting. Detectives provided the vehicle description to TPD personnel in hopes of locating it. On the morning of March 25, 2022, a TPD K9 unit located the suspect vehicle in 3600 block of E. Grant Rd. In total, four occupants were detained from the vehicle. The driver was identified 24-year-old **Zachary Joseph Thomas Naifeh**.

Homicide Detectives responded to the scene and conducted additional interviews. The suspect vehicle, a dark-colored Jeep, was processed for evidence. After reviewing forensic evidence and conducting follow-up interviews, detectives identified Zachary Naifeh as the suspect in the fatal shooting. Detectives learned that the suspect and victims in this case were known associates. Naifeh was ultimately charged with two counts of 1st Degree Murder and two counts of Prohibited Possessor. He is currently being held in the Pima County Jail.



Zachary Joseph Thomas Naifeh

Officer Francisco Magos – March 26, 2022

Page 1 of 2

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.



CITY OF TUCSON



Ready to Protect,
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar
Chief of Police

On March 23, 2022, just after 3:30 a.m., the Public Safety Communications Department received a 9-1-1 call reporting a shooting in the 7100 block of S. 12th Ave. Officers from Operations Division South were dispatched along with paramedics from the Tucson Fire Department. Upon arrival, officers located two shooting victims near the roadway – an adult male and adult female. Despite life-saving efforts by officers and paramedics, both victims were pronounced deceased at the scene.

Officers identified the victims as 39-year-old **Celina R. Garcia** and 44-year-old **Rashad Laron Smith**. Next of kin were notified of their passing. Detectives from the Homicide Unit were briefed and responded to continue the investigation. The immediate scene was processed for evidence while detectives conducted several initial interviews in the area. The investigation is still very active and detectives are working to establish a motive at this time. Anyone who was in the area at the time of the shooting or with information related to the investigation is urged to call 9-1-1 or 88-CRIME anonymously. Additional updates will be provided as they become available.

####

Page 2 of 2

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipació.

tucsonaz.gov