



Media Information

Columbus Division of Police
Homicide Bureau / Homicide Unit

Date: 2/18/2023

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Westfall

Phone: (614) 645 - 4730

Ext: 4730

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 2/18/2023

Time: 4:34AM

Location of Offense/Incident: 1000 block of N 9th St.

Zone: 5

Precinct: 7

Incident Report #: 230120445

Cruiser District: 73

Victim: James Shearer (Deceased)

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 21

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Suspect: Nicholas Kesterson

Address: 3667 Fossil Dr. Columbus, OH 43204

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 22

Charges: Murder

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

Incident Summary:

On Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 4:34AM, the Columbus Emergency Communications Center received several calls via the 911 system reporting a shooting in the area of the 1000 block of N 9th St. On arrival, Columbus Police found 21-year-old James Shearer suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. CFD Medic 7 responded and, at 4:50AM, pronounced Shearer deceased at scene.

As officers were arriving, a vehicle fled the scene. This vehicle ultimately suffered disabling damage when it crashed into some parked cars and a fire hydrant. Following the crash, both occupants fled from the vehicle on foot, but were captured by officers.

The investigation revealed that the driver of the fleeing vehicle, 22-year-old Nicholas Kesterson, was involved in an argument with Shearer. During the argument, Kesterson produced a handgun and shot Shearer, fatally wounding him. Following the shooting, Kesterson and another male fled the scene as officers were arriving. Detectives have charged Kesterson with one count of Murder for causing Shearer's death.

Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to call Columbus Police Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477). Detective Westfall is the lead detective on the case and is being assisted by Detective Kelley.

Copy To: ☒ Executive Staff

☒ Bureau Commander

☒ Public Information Office

Prepared By: Sgt. Marable

Assignment: Homicide

Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730

Approved By: Sgt. Marable

Assignment: Homicide