Media Information

Columbus Division of Police **Date: January 2, 2026**

Homicide Bureau / Homicide-Team 4 Unit

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Williams **Phone: (614) 645 - 4730**
Ext: 2685

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide **Date: 01/02/2026** **Time: 9:25am**

Location of Offense/Incident: 2600 Block of Caralee Place **Zone: 1** **Precinct: 6**

Incident Report #: 260003329 **Cruiser District: 60**

Victim: James Simpson Sr. (deceased)	**Sex: M**	**Race: B**	**Age: 82**
Victim:	**Sex:**	**Race:**	**Age:**
Victim:	**Sex:**	**Race:**	**Age:**

Suspect: Portia D. Martin **Address: Columbus, OH**

☒ **Arrested** ☐ **Warrant on File** **Sex: F** **Race: B** **Age: 55**

Charges:

Suspect: **Address:**

☐ **Arrested** ☐ **Warrant on File** **Sex:** **Race:** **Age:**

Charges:

Incident Summary: On the above listed date and time, CPD Patrol officers were dispatched to the location on the report of a deceased individual. Upon arrival they located the victim inside the residence. The suspect was located at scene and detained. She subsequently admitted to her role in the death of the victim and has been charged with murder. She is currently in the Franklin County Jail. NOK has been notified.

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

Copy To: ☒ **Executive Staff** ☒ **Bureau Commander** ☒ **Public Information Office**

Prepared By: Sgt. LeRoy **Assignment: Homicide** **Telephone: (614) 645 - 4730**

Approved By: Sgt. LeRoy **Assignment: Homicide**