



# Media Information

Columbus Division of Police  
Homicide Bureau / Homicide Unit

Date: 11/20/2025

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Johnson

Phone: (614) 645 - 4730

Ext: 4730

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 11/2/2025

Time: 1:48AM

Location of Offense/Incident: 1700 block of N. High St.

Zone: 4

Precinct: 4

Incident Report #: 250808980

Cruiser District: 44

Victim: Robert Russell

Sex: Male

Race: White

Age: 21

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Suspect: Joseph Gerich

Address: 8079 Grovewood Dr. Mentor Ohio

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: 22

Race: White

Age: Male

Charges: Murder

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

## Incident Summary:

\*\*\*UPDATE: With assistance from the public, detectives were able to identify Joseph Gerich, 22, as the individual who stabbed Russell. On Thursday, November 20, 2025, Gerich, accompanied by counsel, reported to Columbus Police Headquarters and surrendered to detectives.

Detectives have charged Gerich with one count of Murder for causing Russell's death. Gerich is currently incarcerated in the Franklin County Jail.

The investigation into Russell's death is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this incident, is asked to contact Detective Johnson at (614) 645-4488 or [AJohnson@ColumbusPolice.org](mailto:AJohnson@ColumbusPolice.org) or to call Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477). Detective Johnson is the lead detective on the case and is being assisted by Detective Westfall.\*\*\*

On Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 1:48AM, Columbus Police Officers were called to the 1700 block of N. High St. on a report of a stabbing. On arrival, officers found Robert Russell, 21, suffering from apparent stab wounds. CFD Medic 17 transported Russell to OSU Main in critical condition, where he was pronounced deceased at 2:17AM.

Detectives have determined that Russell became involved in an argument that escalated into a fight. During the fight Russell was stabbed and fatally wounded. The nature of the argument that prompted the fight remains unclear. After stabbing Russell the assailants ran from the area on foot.

Prior to the fight, the assailants may have patronized businesses in the immediate area. Detectives are asking anyone who may have video, photographs, or other information that could assist in this case to upload it for review using the provided URL or QR Code.

<https://ColumbusPDOH.evidence.com/axon/community-request/public/250808980>

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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