



Media Information

Columbus Division of Police
Homicide Bureau / Homicide Unit

Date: 7/2/26

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Public Information Office Phone: (614) 645 - 4100

Ext:

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 7/1/26

Time: 11:38 PM

Location of Offense/Incident: 2600 block of Divot Place

Zone: 6

Precinct: 2

Incident Report #: 260479240

Cruiser District: 24

Victim: Diamond Phillips	Sex: Male	Race: Black	Age: Infant
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:

Suspect: Michael Watkins

Address:

☒ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex: Male

Race: Black

Age: 40

Charges: Murder

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested

☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

Incident Summary:

On July 1, 2026, at 11:41 PM, Columbus Police officers were dispatched to the 2600 block of Divot Pl. on the report of a non-breathing child. Upon arrival, the officers located an infant, DIAMOND PHILLIPS, age 7 weeks, unresponsive. Mifflin Twp. Fire medics arrived and transported Phillips to a local hospital, where he was pronounced deceased on July 2, 2026, at 12:19 AM.

Personnel from the Columbus Police Homicide Unit and the Franklin County Coroner's Office responded to conduct a preliminary investigation. Upon the discovery of certain evidence, it has been determined Phillips died as the result of blunt-force trauma and this death will be investigated as a homicide. Next of kin notification has been made.

Detectives obtained an arrest warrant for MICHAEL WATKINS, age 40, charging him with Phillips' death after he was located at the Divot Place residence, where he currently resides with the victim's family. The family has cooperated with the detectives, who determined this is a domestic-related incident based on their statements. The investigation continues.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call Columbus Police Detective Egelhoff at (614) 645-4075, the Homicide Unit at (614) 645-4730, or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477). Detective Egelhoff is the lead detective and is assisted by Detective Jude.

Copy To: ☒ Executive Staff

☒ Bureau Commander

☒ Public Information Office

Prepared By: Sgt. M.B. Smith 5280

Assignment: Homicide

Telephone: (614) 645 - 4191

Approved By: Sgt. M.B. Smith 5280

Assignment: Homicide