



# Media Information

Columbus Division of Police  
Homicide Bureau / Team 4 Unit

Date: Update: Jun 15, 2026

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Radich

Phone: (614) 645 - 4730

Ext: 2372

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 6/13/2026

Time: 9:28am

Location of Offense/Incident: 1900 Block of Cleveland Ave

Zone: 6

Precinct: 5

Incident Report #: 260425779

Cruiser District: 51

Victim: Avante J. Copeland (deceased)	Sex: M	Race: B	Age: 22
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:

Suspect: Michael D. Lunsford Jr. (in custody)	Address: Columbus, OH
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrested <input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex: M Race: B Age: 19
Charges: Murder- ORC 2903.02 (A)	
Suspect:	Address:
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrested <input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex: Race: Age:
Charges:	

**Incident Summary: Update #2-**On June 14, 2026, the suspect was arrested after a brief standoff with CPD SWAT personnel. He is currently in the Franklin County Jail.

**Update #1-**The suspect in this case has been identified as Michael D. Lunsford Jr.. He has been charged with Murder in this shooting. He was last seen in the South Linden area and remains AT-LARGE. Thank you to the public for all of the information they provided.

On the listed date and time, CPD Patrol officers responded to the report of a shooting. Upon arrival, they located the victim suffering from a gunshot wound. He was transported to Grant hospital where he was pronounced deceased a short time later. Homicide detectives are investigating. Detectives are asking for the public's help in identifying the suspect in this Homicide. Please see attached photos. Tips can be e-mailed to [cradich@columbuspolice.org](mailto:cradich@columbuspolice.org) or phone call to 614-645-4624. **DO NOT APPROACH!** Suspect is armed and dangerous.

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 Radich is the lead investigator on the case and is being assisted by Detective Niederkoehr.

Copy To: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau Commander	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information Office
Prepared By: Sergeant LeRoy	Assignment: Homicide-Team 4	Telephone: (614) 645 - 4443
Approved By: Sergeant LeRoy	Assignment: Homicide-Team 4	