



Media Information

Columbus Division of Police
Homicide Bureau / Homicide Unit

Date: 5/3/2024

Elaine R. Bryant, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Detective Westfall

Phone: (614) 645 - 4221

Ext: 4730

Type of Offense/Incident: Homicide

Date: 5/2/2024

Time: 3:01PM

Location of Offense/Incident: 700 block of Reinhard Ave.

Zone: 5

Precinct: 11

Incident Report #: 240307443

Cruiser District: 111

Victim: Najaa Ellman	Sex: Male	Race: Black	Age: 20
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Victim:	Sex:	Race:	Age:

Suspect: Lawuan Williams	Address: 4411 Allen Dr. Columbus, OH 43213			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrested	<input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex: Male	Race: Black	Age: 19
Charges: Murder				
Suspect:	Address:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Arrested	<input type="checkbox"/> Warrant on File	Sex:	Race:	Age:
Charges:				

Incident Summary:
On Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 3:01PM, Columbus Police Officers were called to the 700 block of Reinhard Ave. on a report of a shooting. On arrival, officers found Najaa Ellman, 20, suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. CFD Medic 14 responded and at 3:08PM pronounced Ellman deceased at scene.

Ellman was with some friends when, according to witnesses, he became involved in an argument with Lawuan Williams, 19, who was driving a 2020 gray Nissan Altima. At some point during the argument, Williams produced a handgun and shot Ellman, fatally wounding him. Williams then fled the scene in the Nissan. As Williams was fleeing, an unidentified party fired shots at Williams.

The Nissan was located and recovered by patrol officers near the intersection of E. Livingston Ave. and Kenilworth Pl. shortly after the shooting. Williams, who had been hiding in a nearby residence, surrendered to officers.

Detectives have charged Williams with Murder for causing Ellman's death. Anyone with any information about who was with Ellman just prior to the shooting, or with information regarding the individual who fired shots at Williams as he fled, is asked to contact Detective Westfall at (614) 645-4221 or EWestfall@ColumbusPolice.org or to call Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-TIPS (8477). Detective Westfall is the lead detective on the case and is being assisted by Detective Johnson.

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