

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: January 12, 2013

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Update – Three Arrests in Glendale Shooting

GLENDALE, Ariz. – A little after midnight, Glendale Police Officers responded to a call of a solo vehicle into a tree in the area of 6400 W. Behrend. While responding to the scene, officers received additional information that an altercation had occurred, and subjects on scene had removed a victim from the scene and fled the area. Information was also received that an involved subject still on scene was in possession of a gun.

Upon arrival, the investigation revealed a drug related deal resulted in an altercation in a community area within a neighborhood. A 17 year old white male shot another 17 year old white male during the altercation involving several individuals. The 17 year old juvenile that sustained a gunshot wound was taken to a local hospital by subjects on scene prior to police arrival. The 17 year old juvenile shooter was taken into custody at the scene without incident. The shooter was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries. After arriving at a local hospital, the 17 year old juvenile who suffered a gunshot wound as a result of the shooting was airlifted to a local trauma center with life threatening injuries. He was declared deceased at the hospital this afternoon as a result of his injuries.

Through their investigative efforts, Glendale Detectives working the case developed probable cause for the arrests of 19 year old Josh Rasmussen, 19 year old Justin Whitley and 21 year old Justin Drennan. All three suspects are being booked into the 4th avenue jail on 1st Degree Murder and Armed Robbery (Felony Murder Rule).

It is believed that Rasmussen, Whitley and Drennen, along with the 17 year old deceased juvenile, together planned a robbery of drugs and money from the 17 year old juvenile shooter. The 17 year old juvenile shooter met the 4 suspects in arranged location in the area of 6400 W. Behrend to sale drugs to them. During the drug transaction, the 17 year old deceased juvenile pointed what appeared to be a handgun, but it was actually a BB gun, at the 17 year juvenile who was supplying the drugs for sale. As a result, the 17 year old juvenile displayed a handgun and shot the now deceased 17 year juvenile in what appeared to be self defense.

The 17 year juvenile shooter was released to his parents. Charges will be submitted to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office on the juvenile shooter for 2nd Degree Murder as well as drug related charges. At this point, the names of the involved juveniles are not being released.

Arrested Suspects: Josh Rasmussen 2/20/93, Justin Whitley 7/15/93, and Justin Drennan 6/7/91

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◆ *CRIME
PREVENTION* ◆

◆ *FAIR AND EQUITABLE
TREATMENT* ◆

◆ *COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT* ◆