



BCPO News



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Three Charged in Willingboro Fatal Shooting

Burlington County Prosecutor LaChia L. Bradshaw and Willingboro Township Police Chief Ian Bucs announced that three people have been charged with the August 10 fatal shooting of a 43-year-old Trenton man as he was sitting in a vehicle in the Pennypacker Park section of Willingboro.

Elijah B. Ervin, 33, Shaheed L. Ervin, 39, and Earl T. Johnson, 29, all of Willingboro, were charged with Murder (First Degree), Conspiracy to Commit Murder (First Degree), Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose (Second Degree), Unlawful Possession of a Weapon (Second Degree) and Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons (Second Degree).

Elijah Ervin was taken into custody August 12, and Shaheed Ervin was arrested August 26. Both were lodged in the Burlington County Jail in Mount Holly and ordered to be detained during detention hearings in Superior Court. Earl Johnson was taken into custody at a residence in Philadelphia on September 17 and placed in the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in Philadelphia pending extradition to New Jersey.

The investigation began just after 9 p.m. on August 10 when officers from the Willingboro Township Police Department were called to the area of Paddock Lane and Poppy Turn for a report of a shooting. Upon arrival they discovered that Bruce Hall Jr. had been shot while sitting in a parked pickup truck. Hall was pronounced dead at the scene.

The investigation was conducted by the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office and the Willingboro Township Police Department, with assistance from the New Jersey State Police Fugitive Unit, the Philadelphia Police Department, the U.S. Marshals Service Eastern Pennsylvania Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force, and the U.S. Marshals Service New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force. The lead investigators are BCPO Detective Shawn McDonough and Detective Kaitlin White, along with WTPD Detective Joseph Abadia.

All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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