



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Captain Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: November 16, 2011

Arrest made in August Homicide

Shortly before 7:00 pm, Wednesday, August 31st, Officers of the Lancaster City Police were dispatched to the area of Poplar & New Dorwart Sts for a report of a shooting. Upon arrival, they discovered the victim, a 28 year old man, formerly of Philadelphia, who had been shot in an alley between the 600 Blocks of Poplar and St. Joseph St. The victim was conveyed to a local hospital, where he died a short time later.

Detectives responded to the scene and located several witnesses, who were subsequently conveyed to the police station, where they are currently being interviewed. Crime Scene processing and a neighborhood canvas is being conducted at this time.

The preliminary investigation conducted thus far has revealed that the victim had been in the block for some period of time with some other individuals and became involved in a verbal dispute with someone he was acquainted with, which ultimately resulted in him being shot. Police are not releasing the identity of the victim until next of kin have been notified. This is an active and on-going investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call the Lancaster City Police at 735-3300. Callers do not have to give their names to provide information.

UPDATED INFORMATION(On 1 Sep 2011):

The victim has been identified as:

Robert HAMPTON 28 years old
Formerly of Philadelphia, PA

UPDATED INFORMATION ON ARREST ON 15 NOV 2011:

As a result of this nearly 3 month investigation into this Homicide, yesterday Detective James Fatta filed charges against the below subject for Criminal Homicide(F-1), Criminal Solicitation(To commit Homicide, F-1) and 2 Counts of Violating the Uniform Firearms Act(Persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control sell or



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transfer firearms F-2 and firearms not to be carried without a license F-3) before Magisterial District Judge Cheryl Hartman.....

Robert Baron Brown, 19(AKA: "Hoopty")
1st Blk E. Andrew St
Lancaster, Pa

As this investigation progressed in the weeks and months after this took place, which included multiple interviews with a number of witnesses and reviewing video footage from the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition, as well as private video footage, it became clear that the victim had been standing in the area of the 100 Blk New Dorwart St for some time, the day this took place. It was also determined that just prior to the shooting taking place, the victim was approached by Robert Brown and two other males, who had walked into the block from the area of St. Joseph and Dorwart Sts, and that Robert Brown engaged the victim in conversation, at which time, the two men walked into this alley between St. Joseph and Poplar Sts. Shortly after this, the other two men who had been walking with Robert Brown also entered the alley, but stood near the end of the alley near New Dorwart St.

At this time, a brief scuffle ensued between the victim and Robert Brown, during which time, Brown could be heard, during the scuffle, instructing one of the others to shoot. Then the victim could be heard saying, "No, No, No," 2-3 gunshots rang out and everyone fled the area, as the victim stumbled and ultimately fell in the alley.

Among other evidence located during crime scene processing, a Pa. State Police Crime Lab Ballistics Expert also examined the scene and was able to locate ballistic evidence, specifically a bullet strike on a wooden fence, that would indicate that a bullet fired at the victim traveled from inside the alley out—Towards New Dorwart St, which would be consistent with the position where Robert Brown was standing.

After consulting with the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office on an ongoing basis, Det. Fatta filed the charges yesterday against Robert Brown, who had been previously incarcerated in Lancaster County Prison since September 7th after he was arrested on an unrelated Drug Delivery Charge by the Lancaster City Police Selective Enforcement Unit. Robert Brown was arraigned yesterday afternoon before Magisterial District Judge Bruce



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Roth and he was recommitted to Lancaster County Prison with no bail.

This arrest came as a result of a very intensive investigation by the Lancaster City Police over this 2 ½ month period, along with the assistance of the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office, the Pa State Police Crime Lab and the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition—As this and other video footage proved to be pivotal in this case. This is still an active investigation as to the involvement of others in this case and anyone with additional information is still asked to contact the Lancaster City Police. Again, callers do not have to give their names to provide information. As always, anyone charged with a crime is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

****THE LANCASTER CITY POLICE IS RESPECTUFLLY REQEUSTING THE MEDIA TO LIMIT THE INFORMATION WHICH IS PUBLISHED IN THIS CASE TO THAT WHICH IS ON THIS NEWS RELEASE AND TO SPECIFICALLY REFRAIN FROM PUBLISHING NAMES OF ANY WITNESSES, SHOULD THEY BECOME KNOWN, SO AS NOT TO ENDANGER ANYONE NOR JEOPARDIZE THIS INVESTIGATION.****

(end of release)