

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Asheville

Asheville Police Department



Pierre Griffin Charged in Connection to Deaths of Alexandra King and Tatianna Diz

Asheville, NC (November 19, 2015): After consultation with District Attorney Todd Williams, the Asheville Police Department has charged Pierre Lamont Griffin II with two counts of 1st Degree Murder, two counts of Unlawful Concealment of Death and Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon in relation to the deaths of Alexandra King and Tatianna Diz. These charges are in addition to the charges for 1st Degree Murder charge and Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon for the death of Uhon Johnson on October 27, 2015.

Evidence obtained in the investigation into the disappearance of Alexandra King and Tatianna Diz revealed the sequence of events that occurred. On October 27, 2015, King and Diz left their apartment around 9:15 pm at Canterberi Heights and traveled in King's vehicle to Deaverview Apartments to pick up Pierre Lamont Griffin II. The three then traveled directly to a secluded area near the River Arts District where Griffin shot and killed King and Diz. The evidence shows that Griffin then made his way to Pisgah View Apartments where he entered apartment 28E and shot and killed Mr. Uhon Johnson. Griffin fled the complex in Mr. Johnson's Ford Expedition. He was seen by a Buncombe County Sheriff's Department deputy at 11:08 PM. A vehicle pursuit ensued and culminated in Griffin's capture in Polk County after he was shot by Henderson County Sheriff's Deputies.

The Asheville Police Department would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following agencies for their tireless assistance in the search for Alexandra and Tatianna: the Asheville Fire Department, Henderson County Technical Rescue Team, Buncombe County Sheriff's Office, Woodfin Police Department, North Carolina State Highway Patrol Aviation Unit, Dr. Laura Briggs with North Carolina Search and Rescue Dog Association (NCSARDA), Steve Canady and Brent Hayner with Specialized K9 Services (Fairview), Nancy Colbertson (Durham, NC), John Elkinson (Haywood County, NC), Nancy Joycoy (South Carolina) and other volunteer K9 groups from around the region. We would also like to thank Henderson County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina State Highway Patrol, Fletcher Police Department, Polk County Sheriff's Office and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for their assistance in the apprehension of the suspect.

APD's efforts will now focus on continuing our investigative efforts in consultation with the DA's office to ensure some measure of justice for the families affected by this violent and tragic incident. We will not be releasing further details in order to maintain the integrity of the investigation.

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