
RE:

email: "esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com"

Friday, December 4, 2020 at 1:41:49 PM Eastern Standard Time

To: email: "sheneikasmith@avlcouncil.com \"Sheneika Smith\"", email: "jbaumstark@ashevillenc.gov \"DC James Baumstark\""

Cc: email: "ashevillencouncil@ashevillenc.gov \"councilgroup\"", email: "dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov \"Debra Campbell\"",
email: "dzack@ashevillenc.gov \"David Zack\""

Let me echo councilwoman Smith. I appreciate hearing that suspects have been identified and charged.

I am saddened to learn that one of the shooters and the deceased both came up through Asheville City Schools and the likelihood that this shooting is related to gang violence.

I would be interested to know if APD believes the other murders this year are were related to gang violence and, overall, how much of the violent crime we're seeing is related to gang violence. I ask because in recent weeks and months, council has been urged to take a look at gang violence reduction programs – addressing both stopping young children from joining gangs and then gang diversion once kids are in gangs. I would like to know the scope of this problem and whether there are measures the city can look at, not just through APD, to address gang violence.

Thank you,

Esther

From: Sheneika Smith <sheneikasmith@avlcouncil.com>

Sent: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:32 PM

To: DC James Baumstark <jbaumstark@ashevillenc.gov>

Cc: councilgroup <ashevillencouncil@ashevillenc.gov>; Debra Campbell <dcampbell@ashevillenc.gov>; David Zack <dzack@ashevillenc.gov>

Subject: Re:

Good job APD at identifying and charging suspects in the Gay St homicide.

On Mon, Nov 30, 2020, 10:45 AM DC James Baumstark <jbaumstark@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

It was a busy holiday weekend. We are actively investigating seven shootings that happened over a three-day period beginning on Thanksgiving, November 26. Two people were injured, and one juvenile passed away after being shot multiple times.

Detectives with the Asheville Police Department have been working through the weekend to investigate these shootings. There is evidence that at least one of the shootings is related to the Gay Street homicide. Detectives are evaluating the other incidents in order to determine if they are linked as well.

The Asheville Police Department is committed to addressing violent crime in our community. Since January 1, 2020 the Asheville Police Department has responded to **593** calls for service regarding a gun discharge or an individual who has been shot. In addition, **44** individuals have been shot in Asheville during the same time period.

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