

City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
LARRY V. GONZALEZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 26, 2022

CONTACT:

Officer Ryan J. Railsback
Public Information Officer
Community Services Bureau
railsback@riversideca.gov
(951) 373-6032 (*Media Contact*)

OPERATION “WALK IN THE PARK”

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Wednesday, May 25, 2022 and in partnership with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, and the California Department of Justice's Special Operations Unit, a gang takedown operation was conducted related to two homicides that occurred in Riverside and Moreno Valley in 2020.

The Riverside Police Department began a homicide investigation on December 22, 2020 after 32-year-old Cedric Omarr Dempsey was found deceased from a gunshot wound at Bordwell Park, located in the 2000 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

During their investigation, detectives assigned to our Robbery-Homicide Unit and Gang Intelligence Unit were able to connect Mr. Dempsey's murder to a local criminal street gang. They also discovered gang members from this murder were possibly related to a murder that occurred in Moreno Valley months prior and was being investigated by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department began their homicide investigation on June 7, 2020 after 43-year-old Kevin Henderson was found deceased from a gunshot wound in the 24000 block of Myers Avenue in Moreno Valley.



Along with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, California Highway Patrol, and the California Department of Justice's Special Operations Unit, both agencies began a coordinated investigation to identify those involved in these two murders and their gang associates. Their joint efforts included multiple search warrants, neighborhood canvasses, witness interviews, forensic examination of evidence, reviewing surveillance footage, and other investigative actions.

On May 6, 2022, Riverside County Sheriff's Department Central Homicide Unit investigators arrested and booked Darnell Frederick Tate, 32-years-old of Moreno Valley, into the Robert Presley Detention Center for his involvement in the murder of Kevin Henderson.

On May 21, 2022, Riverside Police Robbery-Homicide Unit and Gang Intelligence Unit detectives arrested and booked Arthur Lawrence Akins III, 50-years-old of Riverside, into the Robert Presley detention center for the murder of Mr. Dempsey.

Central Homicide Unit Investigators are in the process of adding additional murder charges on Akins for his involvement in the murder of Mr. Henderson.

Yesterday on Wednesday, May 25th, 21 search warrants and 4 probation/parole searches were conducted in the cities of Riverside, Rialto, Alhambra, San Bernardino, Victorville, Bellflower, Moreno Valley, Grand Terrace, Corona, Hesperia, Fontana, Highland, and Perris. As a result, 10 handguns, 3 rifles, approximately 2 pounds of suspected heroin, one-half pound of suspected cocaine, one-half pound of suspected methamphetamine, approximately 200 suspected MDMA pills (ecstasy), approximately 8 pounds of marijuana, and a large amount of cash were seized.

In addition to the 2 arrests for murder and 9 arrests from yesterday's takedown operation, 17 felony arrests in total have been made and 55 firearms, including 6 "ghost guns" and 3 assault rifles, seized from gang members that can no longer be used to harm members of our community because of this entire collaborative investigation.

One other notable arrest made in April resulted from a search warrant executed in the Canyon Crest neighborhood of Riverside. 37-year-old John Wrinkle was suspected of manufacturing and selling firearms to gang members. During the search, detectives recovered 11 rifles and shotguns, 28 handguns, approximately 2 pounds of suspected Fentanyl pills, and over 50 pounds of marijuana. Of those handguns, 5 were considered "ghost guns" and the 3D printer used to make them was also seized.

Riverside Police Chief Larry Gonzalez stated, "I can't stress enough the dedication from all the investigators who literally spent thousands of hours on this case. This was truly a collaboration and we could not be more thankful for the professional working relationships we have with all the agencies involved."

Yesterday's efforts were successful and safe in part due to the following SWAT and tactical teams from our partner law enforcement agencies:

- Riverside Police Department
- Riverside County Sheriff's Department
- Riverside County District Attorney's Office Gang Impact Team
- California Highway Patrol
- California Department of Justice Special Operations Unit
- San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department SWAT & High Desert Gang Task Force
- Corona Police Department
- Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
- Inland Violent Crime Suppression Task Force
- Coachella Valley Violent Gang Task Force
- Inland Valley SWAT Team
- Alhambra Police Department

"This two-year-long investigation into a dangerous street gang would not have been successful without the collaborative efforts of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, the Riverside Police Department, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, and the Department of Justice," stated Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco. "The impact gang violence has on innocent victims has no place in any community and we will continue to relentlessly pursue gangs with the strongest possible response by law enforcement."

"Criminal street gangs continue to be a danger to public safety," said Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin. "Not only do they spread violence, but that also are now dealing fentanyl which continues to be an epidemic killing people in our communities."

"For families, nothing is more important than having the peace of mind to know that the neighborhoods children play in and the community where they live and work is safe," said Attorney General Bonta. "Today's operation is one step toward healing the Riverside community from the ills of gun violence. While we can never replace the lives taken by this violent gang, we hope that today's announcement will bring some justice for the families and community left behind. I thank our DOJ agents and law enforcement partners in Riverside for their incredible work in getting these dangerous

individuals off our streets. Tonight, Riverside families can sleep safer as a result of this operation."





City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
LARRY V. GONZALEZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 24, 2020

CONTACT:

Officer Ryan J. Railsback
Public Information Officer
Community Services Bureau
railsback@riversideca.gov
(951) 373-6032 (*Media Contact*)

HOMICIDE VICTIM FOUND BEHIND LOCAL PARK IDENTIFIED

Riverside, CA – On Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at approximately 6:48 a.m., Riverside Police Officers responded to an area behind Bordwell Park, located in the 2000 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard, regarding a dead body that was discovered by a park employee. When they arrived, officers found a male victim who sustained a gunshot wound and was deceased.

Detectives with the Robbery – Homicide Unit, along with Specialists from the Forensics Unit, responded and assumed the investigation. They are being assisted by the Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner's Office. The victim has been identified as 32-year-old Cedric Omarr Dempsey. He was from the city of Perris and survived by his wife and 9 children.

We believe there were other people inside the park when this shooting occurred who have not yet come forward. Detectives are asking for anyone with additional information regarding this homicide investigation to contact Detective Bryon Adcox at (951) 353-7134 or jadcox@riversideca.gov, or Detective Josh Ontko at (951)353-7135 or jontko@riversideca.gov.

If you have information but would like to remain anonymous, you can email rpdtips@riversideca.gov or utilize our Riverside Police Department's mobile app "Submit a Tip" feature while referencing report number 200033545.

4102 Orange Street, Riverside, CA 92501 | Phone: (951) 826-5700 | **RiversideCA.gov**





200033545



RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

RIVERSIDESHERIFF.ORG | 951-955-2400

Reporting Deputy: Sergeant Richard Carroll
File # MV20159390

Update:

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department Central Homicide Unit has been working toward developing leads involving the homicide of Kevin Henderson, which occurred on June 8, 2020, in the city of Moreno Valley.

The investigation revealed the suspect as 50-year-old Arthur Akins of Riverside. Investigators learned Akins was recently arrested and booked into custody by the Riverside Police Department for a separate homicide that occurred in the city of Riverside. Central Homicide Investigators are in the process of adding additional murder charges on Akins related to the Moreno Valley incident.

Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to contact Investigator Deanne from the Central Homicide Unit at (951) 955-2777.

Update:

Investigators from the Central Homicide Unit have continued to investigate the murder of Kevin Henderson, which occurred in Moreno Valley, in June of 2020. Henderson was shot outside of his apartment on the 24000 block of Myers Avenue. On May 6, 2022, Darnell Frederick Tate, a 32-year-old resident of Moreno Valley, was arrested for his involvement in Henderson's murder. The Central Homicide Unit has information which leads them to believe there are additional suspects involved in Henderson's murder. Investigators are seeking the public's help with any additional information which may lead to future arrests. Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to contact Investigator Deanne of the Central Homicide Unit at 951-955-2777.

Details:

On Sunday, June 7, 2020, deputies from the Moreno Valley Station responded to the 24000 block of Myers Avenue, in Moreno Valley, to investigate a report of a shooting. When deputies arrived, they located one adult male suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. Deputies began life saving measures but were unsuccessful and the victim was pronounced at the scene. The suspect(s) fled prior to deputies arrival and are still outstanding. Investigators from the Moreno Valley Station and the Central Homicide Unit responded and have assumed the investigation. The victim has been identified as Kevin Henderson, a 43-year-old resident of Moreno Valley. This is an active investigation and anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to contact Investigator Deanne of the Central

Homicide Unit at (951) 955-2777 or Investigator Bowen at the Moreno Valley Station at (951) 486-6700.

For media inquiries regarding this incident please contact the [Media Information Bureau](#).

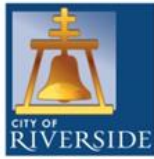


Darnell Frederick Tate



Arthur Akins

JoinRSD.org *If you are interested in a career with us, please apply at joinrsd.org or call 1-888-Join-RSD*



City of Arts & Innovation

MEDIA ADVISORY

Police Department
LARRY V. GONZALEZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 2022

CONTACT:

Officer Ryan J. Railsback
Public Information Officer
Community Services Bureau
railsback@riversideca.gov
(951) 373-6032 (*Media Contact*)

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR SCHEDULED PRESS CONFERENCE

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., the Riverside Police Department in partnership with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, and California Department of Justice will be providing information to the media regarding a recent gang enforcement operation.

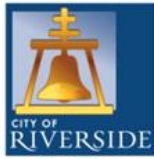
The press conference will take place at the Riverside Police Department's Magnolia Avenue station, located at 10540 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92505. It will also be live streamed through Facebook by Riverside TV.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin, Riverside County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Misty Reynolds, and Riverside Police Chief Larry Gonzalez will speak on details regarding this operation, recent gang takedown, weapons and narcotics seizures, and its connection to two homicide investigations in Riverside and Moreno Valley. The speakers will also be available for individual interviews immediately following the press conference.

PLEASE NOTE THIS EVENT IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. *For security purposes, all news media representatives must show valid U.S. government-issued identification and current media credentials for admittance. All law enforcement and government officials will be asked to show government-issued identification. For any questions, please contact Public Information Officer Ryan Railsback at (951) 373-6032 or RRailsback@RiversideCA.gov.*

4102 Orange Street, Riverside, CA 92501 | Phone: (951) 826-5700 | **RiversideCA.gov**





City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS CONFERENCE AGENDA

Police Department
LARRY V. GONZALEZ
Chief of Police

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION:

Riverside Police Department – Magnolia Station Upstairs Training Room
10540 Magnolia Avenue
Riverside, CA 92505

SPEAKERS *(in order)*

LARRY GONZALEZ – Chief of Police – Riverside Police Department

- Introductions
- Brief overview of homicide investigation in Riverside
- Takedown operation
- Recognition of assisting investigative units and agencies

MISTY REYNOLDS – Chief Deputy - Riverside County Sheriff's Department

- Comments on homicide investigation in Moreno Valley
- Connection to Riverside investigation

MIKE HESTRIN – District Attorney – County of Riverside

- Comments about types of charges
- Potential incarceration times
- Effect on community from gun violence

ROB BONTA – Attorney General - California Department of Justice

- Comments about collaboration and partnerships with local law enforcement agencies
- Effects on communities of gang violence



- Speakers will be available for individual media interviews following press conference upon request. A Spanish speaking PIO will also be available for individual media interviews following press conference.
- Riverside TV will livestream the press conference through Riverside Police Department, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, and Riverside County District Attorney's Office Facebook pages.
- A deaf interpreter will provide sign language for livestream purposes.

PRESS PACKET CONTENTS

On your digital Riverside Police Department press packet, you will find the official press releases from RPD and DOJ, suspect booking photos, several evidence photos, and video clips from arrests. The press conference agenda with correct order and spelling of names of speakers will be included.