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## NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Police

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**TDD:** 791-2639

### HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION 1600 BLOCK OF NORTH HIGHLAND AVENUE

**\*\*\*UPDATE – NOVEMBER 3, 2017\*\*\***

As detectives continued their investigation, they were able to identify 20-year-old Bernard Deshon Rayford as being involved in last month's shooting and a felony warrant was obtained for his arrest. On November 3, 2017, officers from Operations Division South, along with members of the U.S. Marshals Task Force located Rayford inside of a residence on Tucson's South Side. Rayford was taken into custody without incident and booked into the Pima County Jail on his felony arrest warrant for one count of First Degree Murder and one count of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

Detectives with the Tucson Police Gang Unit are following up on leads in an attempt to identify and locate the additional suspects involved in the shooting. Anyone with information is asked to call 88-CRIME. You can remain anonymous.



**Bernard Deshon Rayford**

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Sergeant Pete Dugan – November 3, 2017

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## NEWS RELEASE

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The Tucson Police Department is actively investigating a homicide that occurred early this morning on the west side of Tucson.

On October 28, 2017, at approximately 1:00 a.m., officers from Operations Division West responded to a report of a shooting in the 1600 block of North Highland Avenue. Upon arrival, officers located two adult male victims in front of a residence with obvious signs of gunshot trauma. Both were treated on scene and then transported to a nearby hospital with life threatening injuries. Several hours after arriving at the hospital, one of the victims succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased. The second victim is now stable and his injuries appear to be non-life threatening.

Detectives with the Tucson Police Gang Unit responded to continue the investigation. They were able to determine that just before 1:00 a.m., four uninvited subjects arrived at a large house party and attempted to enter the residence. The subjects were told they could not enter and were not welcome at the party. An argument ensued outside between the uninvited subjects and people at the party. During the argument, the subjects fired several gunshots into the air and then fired shots at the partygoers, striking two of them. After firing the shots, the four subjects fled the scene. Based on information from witnesses, the subjects involved in the shooting appeared to be gang affiliated. They were described as four adult males, possibly Hispanic.

At this time, there are no suspects in custody. Detectives are actively working leads in the case and are asking anyone with information to please call 88-CRIME. You can remain anonymous.

The deceased victim has been identified as 25-year-old Peter Ortiz. Next of kin has been notified. Additional details will be released as they become available.

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