

Chester County District Attorney's Office

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NEWS RELEASE

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August 19, 2021

TWO PHILADELPHIA MEN CHARGED WITH SADBURY TWP MURDER

The Chester County District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) announce the arrest of Lynelle Flowers, age 26, and Zahir Randall, age 21, both of Philadelphia, for the murder of 22-year-old Tariq Scott, Jr., that occurred in Sadsbury Township on June 22, 2021. Both defendants are charged with Criminal Homicide, Murder of the First Degree, Aggravated Assault, Conspiracy, and related offenses. The defendants are in prison awaiting their preliminary hearings.

District Attorney Deb Ryan said, "The defendants lay in wait under cover of darkness to execute an innocent man while his girlfriend and her one-year-old child were inside the car with him. This cold-blooded and premeditated murder is another senseless crime. My condolences go out to the victim's family for the heartbreaking loss of their loved one. Thank you to the Pennsylvania State Police for their dogged pursuit and apprehension of the two defendants – the first step towards bringing justice to the victim's family. The residents of Chester County and Philadelphia are safer today with these criminals off the streets."

The allegations in the complaint are the following¹:

¹ A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

In the early hours of June 22, 2021, the victim, his girlfriend, and her one-year-old child were sitting in a car outside the Sadsbury Township home he shared with his father when Lynelle Flowers fired multiple shots at close range into the vehicle killing the victim. The victim's girlfriend dove into the backseat to protect her child and called 911. The defendants immediately fled from the area. Fired cartridge casings and two projectiles were recovered at the crime scene.

Investigators learned that Flowers is the father of the victim's sister's two children. Two days earlier, on June 20, 2021, Flowers physically assaulted the victim's sister in their shared Philadelphia home after she said she was leaving him and taking the children. Flowers punched and choked her and then slammed her against the floor. She sustained a concussion and bruising to her left eye socket. He also threatened to kill her father and stepfather, both of whom live in Chester County.

That same day, other relatives of the victim traveled to Philadelphia from Chester County to take custody of the children, but Flowers and his family members assaulted them. While the victim's sister was at their house to take her belongings, the defendant was seen retrieving what is believed to be a handgun he kept on top of the kitchen cabinet.

The victim's sister told others, including the victim, about the threats Flowers made. The victim's father told investigators that Flowers called him numerous times between June 20 and June 21, asking for his address so he could fight him. The victim's father eventually blocked his harassing phone calls.

Investigators discovered that Randall, the co-defendant, drove Flowers to Sadsbury Township from Philadelphia to commit murder. Information received during this investigation revealed that the two defendants waited near the victim's home for approximately one hour. Flowers got out of the car and shot the victim while the victim was seated in his girlfriend's vehicle. Both defendants then fled the area.

PSP is investigating. Deputy District Attorney Bill Judge is the assigned prosecutor.

If you have information about this case, please call PSP-Embreeville at 610-486-6280.