

## CHESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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## PRESS RELEASE

## Charges Filed in West Chester Murder, <u>Two Defendants Wanted</u>

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan and West Chester Police Chief Scott Bohn announced homicide charges against Tyrell Jacobs and Tim "TJ" Jacobs for the murder of Eric Brown on April 10, 2018 at the Star Social Club in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Both of the Jacobs are at large and are considered to be armed and dangerous. They are charged with first degree murder, conspiracy, and related offenses.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "This senseless murder was captured clearly on surveillance video. The defendants, both with guns, assaulted and killed an unarmed victim inside the Star Social Club. Both defendants are on the run, with police tracking them down."

Chief Bohn stated, "This was a not a random act. The victim was targeted. We have quickly identified the participants and I am confident we will be making arrests soon. This type of crime has become rare in West Chester, where we pride ourselves on keeping our community safe. However, when a violent crime like this occurs, residents can be assured that we have the skill, partners, and resources necessary to address them."

Tyrell Jacobs is 23 years old. Tim Jacobs is 24 years old. They are believed to be half-brothers. Both defendants have been known to frequent the West Chester and Coatesville areas.

The facts alleged in the criminal complaints are as follows:<sup>1</sup>

On April 10, 2018, the victim Eric Brown (the "Victim"), age 26, was playing basketball in West Chester. After he finished playing basketball, he went to the Star Social Club (the "Star"), located at 212 East Market Street, West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania. He was still carrying his basketball when he entered the Star at approximately 9:02 p.m.

Almost immediately after the Victim entered the Star, at approximately 9:03 p.m., co-defendants Tyrell Jacobs ("Tyrell") and Timothy Jacobs ("TJ") showed up at the Star and began to engage with the Victim. There were multiple witnesses in the Star. The interactions between the co-defendants and the Victim were captured on multiple surveillance video cameras.

The co-defendants argued with the Victim and attempted to draw the Victim into an altercation. Tyrell Jacobs eventually threw an initial punch at the Victim, who did not respond. Other patrons at the Star intervened when Tyrell Jacobs punched the Victim. The defendants tried to get the Victim to leave the Star and go outside with them. The Victim stayed inside the Star. The co-defendants continued with a verbal altercation, both of them within feet of the Victim at times. The Victim still did not leave the Star.

After a couple of more minutes of confrontation, Tyrell Jacobs again punched the Victim. The Victim responded to the punch by coming at Tyrell. Then both co-defendants attacked the Victim.

The Victim fled from the co-defendants, looping around the central bar area and pool tables. The defendants chased the Victim around the interior of the Star, ultimately catching the Victim between them at the back of the Star. The co-defendants both were brandishing firearms.

The Victim attempted to escape through a back door, not realizing that the door leads into a small room with another door that is locked from the outside. Both co-defendants followed the Victim towards the small room. Tyrell Jacobs

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

entered the small room where the Victim was trapped first. TJ Jacobs was at the door of the small room with his gun out. Tyrell Jacobs fired a shot into the Victim's chest. The time was approximately 9:08 p.m. The Victim collapsed.

TJ Jacobs immediately fled out of the Star through the front door. Tyrell Jacobs attempted and failed to leave via the same locked back door that kept the Victim blocked inside, then fled out the front of the Star. The co-defendants got into different vehicles and left the area.

Police and medical personnel were called to the scene. The Victim was transported to Paoli Hospital, where he was declared dead.

Neither Tyrell Jacobs nor TJ Jacobs possess a license to carry a firearm.

District Attorney Hogan added, "The West Chester Police Department and Chester County Detectives did an excellent job investigating this case quickly and thoroughly. The defendants should turn themselves in immediately to face these charges."

This case was investigated by the West Chester Police Department and the Chester County Detectives. Anybody with information should contact West Chester Detective Bob Kuehn at (610) 696-2700 or Chester County Detective Jim Ciliberto at (610) 344-6866.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan