



NEWS RELEASE

PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 2021

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ARRESTS MADE IN THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF 10-YEAR-OLD BOY

Pasadena, CA – On Sunday, February 14, 2021, at approximately 3:00 pm., Pasadena Police Department received several calls of shots fired in the 300 block of Parke St. Officers arrived on scene and located a juvenile victim, who had been struck several times by gunfire. Although conscious and alert when transported to a local hospital by paramedics, the victim was suffering from potentially life threatening injuries.

Preliminary investigation revealed the suspect(s) exited a vehicle and fired multiple bullets, striking the victim. The suspect(s) re-entered their vehicle and fled the area in what was described as a late model, light colored four-door sedan. There is nothing to indicate the 10-year-old was the intended victim of this senseless act of violence.

After several months of rigorous investigation and close examination of the evidence, Pasadena Police Department's Robbery / Homicide Detectives identified individuals believed to be responsible for the Valentine's Day shooting.

On Thursday, May 20, 2021, with the assistance of the U.S. Marshal's Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force, Detectives executed search warrants at various locations in the Southern California area. Additional items of evidentiary value connecting the suspects to the shooting were located and collected. Detectives ultimately arrested the listed suspects and on Monday, May 24, 2021, the case was presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for review. The following charges were filed:

- **Joseph Mekhi Knowles: 21-year-old Altadena resident** - charged with one count of Penal Code 664/187 (attempted murder).
- **Tanaj Johnson: 22-year-old Pasadena resident** - charged with one count of Penal Code 664/187 (attempted murder).

Pasadena Police is urging anyone with information about this case to call the Pasadena Police at (626) 744-4241 or you may report information anonymously by calling "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 Tips" Mobile APP on Google play or the Apple App Store or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.

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