



MICHAEL C. O'MALLEY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Three Indicted for Murder of 9-year-old Girl Saniyah Nicholson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, July 02, 2018

CLEVELAND – Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley announced that a Grand Jury has indicted adults Ce'Matizea Andrews, Davontae Nettles, and Aaron George for the murder of 9-year-old Saniyah Nicholson.

On Wednesday June 20, 2018, Andrews, 19, Nettles, 19, George 18, and a juvenile were in a black car that was involved in a shootout on Lee Road near Cloverside Avenue. The shootout occurred between those in the vehicle and two juveniles standing on the sidewalk. The three juveniles ages 16 to 17 have also been charged.

The crossfire killed 9-year-old Saniyah Nicholson, who was sitting in her mother's vehicle with her 20-year-old sister. Her mother was picking up her teenage son from DNA Level C Boxing Club when the victim was struck and killed.

"We have lost too many children to this senseless violence and it has to stop," states Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley. "The parents of 9-year-old Saniyah Nicholson, much like the parents of 3-year-old Major Howard, six-month-old Arielle Wakefield, 5-year-old Ramon Burnett, 12-year old Abdel Bashiti, and others, having to bury their children is inconceivable and outrageous."

The adult defendants face nine charges: Aggravated Murder, Murder, two (2) counts of Attempted Murder, Discharge of a Firearm On or Near Prohibited Premises, two (2) counts of Felonious Assault, Improperly Handling Firearms in a Motor Vehicle, and Having Weapons Under Disability (HWWUD). Seven of the nine charges carry 1 & 3 Year Firearm Specifications, in addition to a 5 Year "Drive By Shooting" Firearm Specification.

Ce'Matizea Andrews, Davontae Nettles, and Aaron George were each charged with HWWUD for previous felony convictions. Andrews was found delinquent of Felonious Assault in June 2015. Nettles was found delinquent of Felonious Assault in July 2015. George was found delinquent of Attempted Aggravated Robbery in August 2016.

The three juveniles each face ten charges: Aggravated Murder, Murder, two (2) counts of Attempted Murder, Discharge of a Firearm On or Near Prohibited Premises, three (3) counts of Felonious Assault, Carrying A Concealed Weapon, and Criminal Damaging or Endangering. Eight of the ten charges carry a 1 & 3 Year Firearm Specification.

The State intends on filing a Motion to Relinquish Jurisdiction to have the juvenile cases transferred to the Court of Common Pleas.

This investigation was led by Cleveland Police Homicide and 4th District Detective Bureau, with assistance from several outside law enforcement agencies including the U.S. Marshall's Office, which resulted in the charges filed against the three juveniles and three adults. Prosecutor O'Malley states, "The community's overwhelming response and the outstanding work by law enforcement have led to today's indictment and the charges against three juveniles."

Arrestment for all three is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on July 5.

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