



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Contact: HCPDNews@howardcountymd.gov

Police increase reward to up to \$30,000 in death of mother and baby in Columbia *Detectives working to identify suspect vehicle on surveillance video*

Howard County police are increasing the reward to up to \$30,000 in the July 31, 2020, shooting of a pregnant woman in Columbia, which resulted in her death and the death of her baby. Detectives are asking the public to help identify a suspect vehicle captured on surveillance video at the time of the shooting.

Rabiah Ahmad, 30, was 28 weeks pregnant when she was shot while inside a residence in the 6600 block of Dovecote Drive. She later died at the hospital. Doctors delivered her baby girl, Ahja, who remained in critical condition until she died Aug. 5.

Through investigation since the shooting, detectives believe the unknown suspect(s) arrived and left the scene in an older-model white sedan. The video shows the vehicle traveling along the 8000 block of Harriet Tubman Lane shortly after the shooting.

Police responded that night to the Dovecote address, where numerous people reside, for a report of several gunshots. Police discovered that multiple bullets had been fired into the house from the outside. Ahmad, who had recently moved to Maryland and had been staying at the residence for the last few months, was struck once; no one else was injured. Detectives do not believe that Ahmad was targeted and are still working to determine the motive in the shooting.

Investigators have been following up on tips and possible leads in the case, but so far none has led to a suspect. They have increased the reward and are urging anyone with information to contact police at 410-313-STOP or HCPDCrimeTips@howardcountymd.gov. Callers can remain anonymous.

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