

## **DETROIT: BYSTANDER DIES ; WOMAN SOUGHT - WARRANT CHARGES HER WITH FIRST-DEGREE MURDER**

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Police are looking for a **woman** who they say fatally shot a **bystander** when she fired a gun at a car and missed following an argument with another motorist.

According to police, Nicole Andretta Eckles, 35, of Detroit got into an argument with a male motorist at Linwood and West Davison in Detroit at 5:30 p.m. June 18. The argument escalated, and the other driver struck Eckles' vehicle with an object, causing damage, police said.

As the motorist drove off, Eckles fired a shot at his vehicle but missed and instead struck Edward Houston, 49, of Detroit, police said. Houston was walking southbound on Linwood with his 4-year-old nephew at the time. Eckles then fled in a white Ford 500, police said. The boy was not injured.

"A stray bullet hit my nephew," Rosana Bines, Houston's aunt, said Saturday. She said she's been giving media interviews in hope of finding her nephew's killer.

She said Houston was on his way to pick up a prescription at a drug store for his mother, who suffers from diabetes and arthritis. He was shot as he passed by a gas station.

"He was the person she depended on for most of the time," Bines said of Houston's relationship with his mother.

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office signed a felony warrant charging Eckles with first-degree murder, carrying a concealed weapon and using a firearm in the commission of a felony.

Houston was buried Friday.

Anyone with information about the shooting or Eckles' whereabouts is asked to contact the Detroit Police homicide unit at 313-596-2260 any time or the Crime Stoppers' anonymous tip line at 800-773-2587.

Crime Stoppers will give a cash reward to the caller whose tip leads to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for Houston's death.

Contact CECIL ANGEL at 313-223-4531 or [angel@freepress.com](mailto:angel@freepress.com).

ILLUSTRATION: Photo

CAPTION: Nicole Andretta Eckles

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