

Chief seeks help in killings ' wake - She asks community to help fight 'explosion of violence' after 2 boys slain in drug plot.

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DETROIT -- A plot to rob and kill a rival drug dealer ended with the cold-blooded **killing** of two young boys **in** a west side Detroit home, according to a detailed police report released Tuesday.

According to court records, the plan went awry late Friday night with horrific results when no money was found and the drug dealer survived.

Five suspects were arraigned Tuesday **in** Detroit's 36th District Court on multiple charges of murder, robbery and gun violations **in** what Detroit Police **Chief** Ella Bully-Cummings decried as an "explosion of violence" resulting **in** the brutal slayings of 11-year-old Darren Johnson of Oak Park and 13-year-old Orlando Herron of Detroit.

Bully-Cummings called on the community to **help** police stop the bloodshed.

"The reality of crime fighting is that the police cannot do it alone," she said. "These crimes occurred inside of a dwelling behind closed doors. There must be an outcry from the community."

Charged **in** the case are: Sonya O'Neal, 38, Torrisandois Lyons, 42, Deandre Witherspoon, 23, Robert Reed, 36, and Charles Moore, 38, all of Detroit.

Magistrate Millicent D. Sherman set a March 4 preliminary examination. The five were ordered held without bond **in** the Wayne County Jail.

Police got a break **in** the case when O'Neal went to police headquarters Sunday and turned herself **in** . She named Lyons, Witherspoon and Reed as accomplices.

Lyons, whose mug shot and name had been put out by police as a person of interest **in** the shootings, also turned himself **in** . He named O'Neal, Witherspoon and Reed as participants.

He also told police another woman, Lenore Sims, was present when the crime was planned and that she drove a getaway car.

Police said Lyons told them he gave the guns used **in** the shootings to a neighbor of O'Neal on Orleans. Police then recovered a 9 mm and a .45-caliber handgun **in** a box **in** the neighbor's basement.

According to court records, the brutal attacks unfolded like this:

The man targeted for the robbery and death was Ronel Thompson, 22, who was lured Friday night to O'Neal's home. Police said he told them he was lured there under the pretext that he would deliver nine ounces of cocaine.

Instead, Moore bound Thompson's hands with duct tape. Thompson then was stuffed into the trunk of a car and driven back to his home **in** the 6500 block on Mansfield near Greenfield and Warren on the city's west side.

There, the five armed intruders burst **in** and ordered the occupants of the house on the floor.

In the house were the two boys, and three other males, Earl Herron, 17, Jayvon Scarber, 15, and Devin Raines, 20, who was **in** an upstairs bedroom.

The two younger boys, Thompson, and Earl Herron are cousins, according to investigators.

The survivors told police the five intruders kept yelling "where is the money" as they threatened them with guns.

Earl Herron and Scarber said they were forced to the basement, where Herron was repeatedly kicked as the assailants screamed, "where is the money."

The report said Herron and Scarber were ordered to the floor and O'Neal, Lyons and Reed ran back upstairs. They told police they then heard several shots.

Raines told police she was **in** a bedroom upstairs when Lyons burst into the room, pointed a .45-caliber handgun at her, ordered her to put her face **in** the pillow and yelled "where is the money." After Lyons ran back downstairs, she said she heard shots fired.

Sims said she drove to the home with the other suspects but told police that she remained outside **in** a vehicle.

She said Lyons and Reed ran out of the house, jumped **in** her car and they drove back to O'Neal's home. Sims told police O'Neal said they did not get anything at the home. She said Moore told her O'Neal and Reed were the shooters.

Police responding to the house found Darren Johnson and Orlando Herron fatally shot **in** the head and Thompson shot **in** the groin, arm and leg. Police are investigating allegations that the young boys were involved **in** drug trafficking, an allegation that friends of the Johnson family vehemently deny.

A man who said he was a friend of Darren Johnson's family said the 11-year-old was on a sleepover with Orlando Herron on Friday night. Darren Johnson was a fifth-grader at Coolidge Intermediate School **in** the Ferndale School District.

Caption: Sonya O'Neal is led out of court after being arraigned on felony charges of murder, robbery, and gun violations. Lyons Moore O'Neal Reed Witherspoon

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