

## Media Release:

June 17, 2021

## Contact:

Michael Leffler, Michael.Leffler@indy.gov Destiny Burgos, Destiny.Burgos@indy.gov

## Two additional suspects charged in the murder of Chris Beaty

Three individuals are now charged for their suspected roles in Beaty's death

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – A Marion County Grand Jury has indicted two people in the murder of Chris Beaty. Alijah Jones and Nakeyah Shields were indicted on the charges of Felony Murder, five counts of Armed Robbery (Level 3 Felony), and one count of Attempted Armed Robbery. Jones and Shields were both arrested today. Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced that three individuals are now charged for their suspected roles in Beaty's death, as Marcus Anderson was charged with Murder in December 2020.

The shooting occurred on May 30, 2020, in downtown Indianapolis. Additional evidence developed through the investigation provided prosecutors with enough information to bring the accusations before a Grand Jury. The indictments filed on Tuesday bring new charges in Beaty's death as well as the alleged armed robbery or attempted armed robbery of six other individuals on the same evening.

"We believe Chris Beaty was shot and killed doing what we know to be his nature - taking care of his neighbors and his city. I would like to thank the Beaty family for the tremendous example they've set during this difficult time," Prosecutor Mears stated. "His death, and the loss to Indianapolis, has had a lasting impact on so many."

Chris Beaty was a well-known local figure, nicknamed Mr. Indianapolis. He was a former Cathedral High School athlete who went on to play football at Indiana University. His death drew national attention due to his collegiate athletic career as well as his generous actions within his home city of Indianapolis.

"His friends and family have asked us to 'live like Chris' by standing up for what is right and to live every day to the fullest," Prosecutor Mears added. "As we recover from the pandemic and face so many other challenges of violence and inequity, our city needs us to live like Chris now more than ever."

Marcus Anderson and Alijah Jones also face charges in suspected robberies that occurred on the same evening as Beaty's death. Anderson has been in the custody of the Marion County Jail since August 2020.

A Marion County Grand Jury consists of seven individuals summoned to jury duty and selected in the same manner as a trial jury. Six individuals serve as Grand Jurors and one serves as an alternate. The Grand Jury is presented with evidence and provided the opportunity to question witnesses prior to making a decision on potential indictments.

NOTE: Prosecutor Mears is available this afternoon for media interviews. Contact Michael Leffler to schedule.