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Public information release

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UPDATE: Arrest Made in the Murder of 11-year-old Boy

July 23, 2025 (MINNEAPOLIS) - Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara announced that a 16-year-old male has been arrested for the murder of 11-year-old Amir Lamar Atkins.

The 16-year-old was arrested on July 22, 2023, at approximately 9:01am in Apple Valley. He was taken into custody without incident and was booked into the Hennepin County Juvenile Detention Center.

"I am incredibly grateful to the hard work of the investigators who worked to complete a thorough investigation of this heinous crime," said Chief O'Hara. "I am hopeful that this arrest brings a sense of justice for Amir and his family."

The shooting occurred on June 23rd in the afternoon at Folwell Park on Dowling Avenue North. Gunfire erupted in the park and Amir Atkins was shot and killed.

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Minneapolis Police Investigating Mid-Afternoon Shooting That Killed 11-Year-Old Boy

June 23, 2025 (MINNEAPOLIS) – Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara shared the heartbreaking news that an 11-year-old boy has died after being shot Monday afternoon.

At approximately 2:08 p.m., Fourth Precinct officers responded to a report of gunfire at Folwell Park on Dowling Avenue North.

Preliminary information indicates gunfire erupted within the park. Witnesses reported seeing a vehicle driving through the park and two other vehicles moving through the adjacent parking lot at the time of the shooting.

Shortly afterward, a resident sitting on his porch near Morgan Avenue North and Dowling Avenue North heard cries for help. He discovered the boy suffering from a life-threatening gunshot wound, along with two other males, outside his home. The resident placed the child and one of the males into his vehicle and began driving toward the hospital. On the way, he flagged down an officer near Penn and Dowling Avenues. The officer immediately removed the boy from the vehicle and initiated lifesaving efforts. Despite efforts by police, fire, and EMS personnel, the boy was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Minneapolis Police Department is actively investigating the circumstances surrounding the shooting.

“I cannot emphasize enough how terrible it is to have an 11-year-old boy shot and killed in the middle of the day,” said Chief O’Hara. “We need anyone with information to come forward so we can bring some sense of justice to this child’s family. We are following every lead, but we need the public’s help to solve this.”

The Hennepin County Medical Examiner will release the child’s name, as well as the official cause and manner of death.

Case number: 25-172084

Anyone with information is urged to email policetips@minneapolismn.gov or leave a voicemail at **612-673-5845**.

Those wishing to remain anonymous can contact **CrimeStoppers** at **1-800-222-TIPS (8477)** or submit tips online at www.CrimeStoppersMN.org. All tips to CrimeStoppers are anonymous, and information leading to an arrest and conviction may qualify for a financial reward.

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