

Gaston County Police Make Arrest in Homicide Investigation

Gaston County Police Department

GASTON COUNTY, N.C.—The Gaston County Police Department has arrested and charged a suspect in connection with a homicide that occurred Monday night in southern Gaston County.

On November 2, 2026, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Gaston County Police officers responded to a reported shooting at 1027 Old Church Road, outside of Gastonia. Upon arrival, officers located one victim deceased at the scene. A witness provided officers with information identifying a suspect, along with a description of the suspect's vehicle and direction of travel.

Responding officers located the suspect's vehicle near Crowders Creek Road and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The driver refused to stop, leading officers on a vehicle pursuit that ended on Stallion Way, off Hoffman Road. The suspect then abandoned the vehicle and ran on foot into the surrounding neighborhood.

Gaston County Police, along with multiple law enforcement agencies, responded

to the area to assist with apprehending the suspect. Gaston County Police K9 officers quickly arrived on scene and began tracking the suspect, while the department's Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Drone Team were activated to assist with the search. Shortly after midnight, ERT and K9 officers located the suspect hiding in a wooded area and took him into custody without incident.

The suspect, identified as Jeffery Martin, was subsequently interviewed by Gaston County Police detectives and charged with First-Degree Murder, two counts of Attempted First-Degree Murder, Larceny of a Motor Vehicle, and Possession of a Firearm by a Felon. Martin was transported to the Gaston County Jail, where he is being held without bond.

The Gaston County Police Department would like to thank Gaston County Emergency Management, the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, the Gastonia Police Department, and the Belmont Police Department for their assistance in the search and apprehension of the suspect.

This remains an active investigation.

Anyone with additional information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Bishop at 704-866-3320 or CrimeStoppers at 704-861-8000.