March 1, 2021

Hammond Police Field Training Officers of the Year



From left to right MSGT. Boyzie Coulter incoming Field Training Program Coordinator, Captain of Patrol Rob Bunner outgoing Field Training Program Coordinator, MSGT. Ryan Orr Field Training Officer Supervisor of the year, Hammond Police Chief Andy Short, Corporal Dan Crook Field Training Officer of the year, Hammond Police Assistant Chief Jeff Long

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Boys & Girls Clubs Honors Outgoing Board Members and Elects New Officers

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana celebrated outgoing Board members and introduced new Board Officers during its annual awards ceremony, held virtually during the last week of January.

Among those whose Board terms ended was Christopher Campbell, who served as the organization's Board president in 2019. Boys & Girls Clubs president and CEO Ryan Smiley thanked Campbell and outgoing Board members Luke Miller of Applied Technology Services and Dana Neer of Culver Academies for their guidance through a series of significant challenges, including an organizational merger in 2018 and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I'm grateful for all the guidance Chris, Luke and Dana gave us throughout their time on the Board, but especially through an extremely challenging 2020," Smiley said. "Our organization is in a better place because of them, and we wish them the best of luck going forward."

Smiley also introduced members of the new Board leadership team, whose terms officially began on January 1. Michael Simpson of M.E. Simpson Company, Inc. will serve as Board Chair. Matt Glaros of Meyers & Glaros will serve as vice-chair. Rene Martin of First Merchants Bank will continue to serve as treasurer, and Timothy D. Rice of CAPTRUST will serve as secretary. David L. Hollenbeck will continue to serve as legal counsel, and following her term as 2020's Board Chair, Tanya Leetz of Peoples Bank will serve as immediate past chair.

In addition to recognizing past and current board members, Smiley also handed out awards to individuals whose commitment to the success of the organization garnered national recognition. Smiley presented Randy Hall of Luxor Homes with the National Award of Merit, which is given to individuals outside of the organization who have provided outstanding support to a Club or to the Boys & Girls Clubs Movement. Campbell received the National Silver Medallion, an award given to Board members and other volunteers who have provided outstanding and exemplary service to the organization. Smiley then presented Lake Station Boys & Girls Club's interim Club director Sylvia Collins with the National Professional Service Award, given to a staff member who demonstrates exceptional dedication to a Club organization and the Boys & Girls Club Movement.

Finally, Smiley presented National Service to Youth Awards to Board members who have given five or more years of devoted service to Boys & Girls Clubs. Recipients included Nick Arnold, who completed his 15th year of service, and Paul Dawning, who completed his 10th. Campbell, Eric Evans, Mike Hooper and Dan Marchetti completed their fifth years of service.

Source: Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana

CITY OF HAMMOND ENDS 2020 IN THE BLACK

Hammond Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. is pleased to announce that the City of Hammond finished 2020 with a revenue surplus. After a very trying year dealing with a pandemic that closed the Casino for part of the year as well as impacted the tax base and other revenue streams, Hammond still ended 2020 with a fund balance of \$4,061,274.88.

"I am proud of the fact that we were able to end the year with over \$4 million in the bank without program or job cuts", stated Mayor McDermott. "It was a tough year but we pulled through with flying colors. I have a great team and we all curtailed our expenses and made sure the revenue spending freeze was followed."

Below is a table showing how net gaming funds will be distributed for the first quarter of 2021 per Ordinance 20-12.

"We are still dealing with a pandemic", stated Mayor McDermott. "With the masks being worn and the vaccine becoming a v a i l a b l e to citizens, hopefully we will get back to a more event friendly environment later this year".

Source: City of Hammond

12/31/20 Ending Fund Balance: 4,061,274.88 2021 1st Quarter Budget: Capital Improvement (62%)

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Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

www.alcccogop.org

An Open Door Church

7105 Hohman Ave., Hammond, IN Drs. Meredith & Marilyn Shackelford (219) 803-0045

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m. **www.anopendoorchurch.org**

Bethel Congregational C.O.G.I.C.

815 Michigan St., Hammond, IN Deacon Lester Stokes (219) 931-1301

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. Friday 7:30 p.m.

Black Oak Church of Christ

2844 Stevenson St., Gary, IN Pastor Steve Martinez (219) 844-1789

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Greater Works Outreach Prayer and Deliverance Ministry

7320 Northcote, Hammond, IN Apostle Jose Ruiz (219) 852-0677 Sunday 11:30 a.m. www.greaterwksmin.com

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1910 167th St, Hammond, IN

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6:00 p.m.

www.hammondcrc.org

Hyde Park United Methodist Church

6348 Harrison Ave., Hammond, IN Preacher Darryl Dorton (219) 932-0613

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Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1047 Kenwood St., Hammond, IN Reverend William R. Collins (219) 931-4337

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Prayer 6:00 p.m.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

1117 Merrill St., Hammond, IN Reverend Herman A. Polk, Sr. (219) 932-5955

Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Wednesday 8:30 a.m, 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.

New Salem MissionaryBaptist Church

833 Conkey St., Hammond, IN Pastor Wayne Hudson (219) 932-0999

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

New Zion Temple Church

926 Morris Street, Hammond, IN Bishop Brandon A. Jacobs (219) 931-ZION (9466)

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Sunday Morning

Worship 11:30 a.m. Wednesday Prayer 6:30 p.m. Wed Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

www.newziontemple.org

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*information submitted subject to editing for clarity and space allotted

Purdue Northwest partners with Innovate WithIN to encourage youth entrepreneurship in Northwest Indiana

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. – Purdue University Northwest (PNW) and the Society of Innovators at PNW have partnered with Innovate WithIN (IWI), the most elite pitch competition in the country for aspiring high school innovators, to encourage youth entrepreneurship across Northwest Indiana. Student contestants have an opportunity to win \$25,000 in funding, tuition, and other prizes.

"All students deserve a world-class, well-rounded education and entrepreneurship is an integral aspect of this. That is why the Society of Innovators hopes to break down barriers to innovation and entrepreneurship. It is critical for our region's 21st century economic success that all students are not just prepared to take jobs, but to create them," said Sheila Matias, executive director at the Society of Innovators and Leadership Institute at Purdue Northwest.



Purdue University Northwest and the Society of Innovators at PNW have partnered with Innovate WithIN, the most elite pitch competition in the country.

The Innovate WithIN competition works in three phases: submission, regionals, and finals. Students will form a team (solo or up to three people), participate in a guided business planning process and then submit their plan and a video recording of their pitch. Ten teams will be selected to compete live in the regional competition where each student on the winning team in their region will receive \$1,000 and a chance to participate in the state finals.

State finalists will participate in a 30-day entrepreneurial bootcamp, culminating in the state finals where student teams will again pitch their business to a series of judges. Each member of the winning team will receive \$10,000 in seed funding and \$10,000 in tuition to their choice of an Indiana college. All state finalists will then spend four days traveling to a city outside of Indiana to meet celebrity entrepreneurs, world-class business leaders, startups and large enterprises from around the nation.

Purdue Northwest is offering additional scholarship prizes and benefits to participants and winners of Innovate WithIN who enroll at PNW:

- A one-year (non-renewable) full tuition scholarship will be offered to first place winners (at the NWI regional competition), once the winner is enrolled as a full-time, degree-seeking student at PNW.
- A one-year full tuition and room & board scholarship

will be offered to first place winners at the state competition, once the winner is enrolled as a full-time, degree-seeking student at PNW.

- A \$250 book scholarship will be offered to any IWI participant who registers as a full-time student at PNW.
- All students will also be eligible to apply for other scholarships available to PNW students.
- Students whose teams place (first, second, or third) at the regional and/or state competition will have an opportunity to intern with the Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest or the Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Center, if they enroll as a degree-seeking student at PNW.

"We're eager to see the Innovate WithIN program grow and develop in our region as part of our university-wide effort to grow and support a thriving youth entrepreneurship ecosystem in Northwest Indiana," said Matthew Wells, director of external engagement and partnerships at Purdue Northwest.

To participate, students must be high-school aged (14-18 years), enrolled in an Indiana high school, and reside in Indiana. To learn more and apply to participate, visit www.innovatewithin.org. Applications must be received by February 28.

The Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest

The Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest (PNW) aims to contribute to economic and community development throughout the region as the champion of innovation in Northwest Indiana. For more information about the Society of Innovators, visit www.pnw.edu/soi.

Source: Purdue University
Northwest



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Munster High School English teacher Peggy Matanic is inducted into the Indiana Thespian Hall of Fame



Munster High School English/Theatre teacher Peggy Matanic has been inducted into the Indiana Thespian Hall of Fame.

The Indiana Thespians is the state chapter of the Educational T h e a t r e A s s o c i a t i o n (EdTA). The EdTA is the home of the International Thespian Society, the honor society for educational theatre. The organization's Hall of Fame

recognizes theatre educators with 20 or more years of experience for their

contributions to the Indiana Thespians and the EdTA.

According to Ray Palasz, auditorium director for the Munster Theatre Company and co-chapter director of the Indiana Thespians, Matanic was recognized for her hard work in not only partnering on the Munster Theatre Company, but also developing a strong program with the Wilbur Wright Theatre Company.

"Essentially, in the School Town of Munster, we have a seven-year theatre program," said Palasz. "Students can start in 6 th grade, and by the time they graduate from Munster High School, they will be wellprepared to study theatre after high school. Peggy's students have tackled tough issues like the Holocaust and natural disasters through her contest plays, and she introduces to them various dialects through both the shows she produces and the individual Thespy events she coaches them in."

Matanic, who has taught at Munster High School since 2007, teaches composition, English 11, technical theatre, and theatre arts. In addition to her activities with the high school and middle school theatre groups, she also sponsors the Gay-Straight Alliance Club at the high school.

Source: Munster High School





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Couple establishes endowed scholarship in honor of retired PNW professor



Donald and Ruth Reichert

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. — The Purdue University Northwest (PNW) Department of Political Science, Economics and World Languages has announced the creation of a future endowed scholarship, a planned gift, to benefit undergraduate political science majors.

The Donald and Ruth Reichert Scholarship in honor of Professor Doris Pierce has been established by Donald and Ruth Reichert of Elizabethtown, Ky., to provide future scholarships to undergraduate students majoring in political science. The gift honors Donald's former mentor and the couple's friend, Doris Pierce.

"I wanted to give back to the institution that gave me my real start in life," explains Reichert, who grew up in the Hessville area of Hammond. "I especially wanted to honor my first political science professor and later lifelong friend, Doris Pierce."

Pierce, PNW professor emerita of Political Science, taught at the former Purdue University Calumet from 1962 to 1994. Pierce held both a doctorate in political science and a juris doctorate degree and taught classes in local and urban politics and public law at the

Hammond campus for 32 years. She headed the Department of History and Political Science from 1986 until her retirement in 1994.

Reichert, a retired Army Lt. Col., grew up just a few miles from PNW's Hammond campus and always knew he would attend the university. "I had applied and been accepted to three other universities but ultimately knew I would choose Purdue Northwest," states Reichert. This decision would precipitate his meeting Pierce, who fostered his interest in state and local government.

"Doris had a degree in law but was interested, just as I was, in state and local government," states Reichert. "Doris was a tough but fair grader, and until I graduated and knew her personally, I never knew her political persuasion. In her classes she would listen to every argument and never put down a student for a political belief that was out of the ordinary."

Reichert was so impressed by the political science professor he took five of her classes. He credits Pierce with helping build his foundation in political science that helped contribute to his 40-year success with the U.S. Army. Reichert attended the Hammond campus for two years. As there was no ROTC program on the Hammond campus at that time, he transferred to Purdue University in West Lafayette, where he graduated in 1972.

"This is an extraordinary contribution to the university and a vote of great confidence in the department of Political Science by one of its distinguished alumni," says Richard Rupp, PNW interim department chair of Political Science, Economics and World Languages. "The Reicherts' planned gift will provide scholarships to Purdue Northwest students, many of whom are first-generation college students and will benefit greatly from their generosity."

"My wife and I are happy to be able to honor Doris with this endowment to help future political science students at Purdue Northwest," states Reichert.

The renewable scholarship will be awarded at a future date, to an undergraduate student attending PNW and majoring in political science. Recipients will be selected based on financial need

Source: Purdue University
Northwest



Doris Pierce, Professor Emerita of Political Science at PNW

Kim Kardashian visits Purdue University Northwest criminal justice class

HAMMOND a n d WESTVILLE, Ind. Students in Purdue University Northwest (PNW) Associate Professor Nicky Ali Jackson's Wrongful Convictions class were astonished and thrilled Thursday (Feb. 11) when Kim Kardashian joined their Zoom class to discuss her work on wrongful conviction and mass incarceration.

Kardashian joined Jackson and 28 students for the virtual special topics course in PNW's criminal justice program, which will become a degree program effective fall semester 2021. Over the past three years, Kardashian has leveraged her celebrity platform to become a force in the world of criminal justice reform. She currently is studying to become a lawyer.

"She talked about how she got involved with criminal justice reform, and she told students it's really important to

post these causes to social media because someone might see it and be able to help," Jackson said of Kardashian's discussion with the class. "She is extremely articulate, very bright, and truly cares about justice. I was so impressed with her knowledge about the field. She is not a celebrity who is just putting her name on a cause. She is actively involved in this cause."

Jackson, who has been teaching at PNW for more than 30 years, created the Willie T. Donald Exoneration Advisory Coalition to support those who have been, or will be, wrongfully convicted in the state of Indiana. She helped advocate successfully for legislation in Indiana to provide compensation for innocent people who were exonerated of crimes they did not commit.

Jackson previously arranged a virtual visit by music industry executive Jason Flom, founder

and CEO of Lava Records, with the same class. Flom has worked with such well-known performers as Greta Van Fleet, Katy Perry, Kid Rock and Lorde. He also is an advocate for those who have been wrongly convicted.

Jackson extended the invitation to Kardashian to speak to PNW students after learning that the famous entrepreneur and influencer had visited with a virtual Georgetown University class on similar topics last year. She kept the visit a secret and surprised her students.

"During this really difficult time, my students could really use a pick-me-up," Jackson said. "Ms. Kardashian got on the Zoom and was absolutely wonderful. The first thing she said was that she is honored and humbled to be on this call with the students and with me. She had heard about the work I have been doing."

Jackson described her students' reactions as having "that Macaulay Culkin look on their faces" from the original "Home Alone" movie - "they had their Zoom screens muted, with their hands on their faces and their mouths dropped open!" Some called family members into the room from other parts of their homes.

Students had the opportunity to ask Kardashian a range of questions about the justice system, being a mother, her decision to gain a law degree, and even her family's famed TV show, "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

Students also have been afforded the opportunity to meet exonerees in class. They have shared how they were wrongly arrested, convicted and incarcerated. Jackson said that in March, a death row exoneree will be sharing his ordeal with the students.

"It is amazing for students to connect academic research to the real-world environment," she noted. Many students have shared that they want to pursue a career in social justice.

"This is by far the most interesting and interactive course I have taken between the two schools I have attended. It is amazing how much my interest has grown on this topic," student Shirin Gutierrez said in expressing her appreciation for the visit by Kardashian.

Learn more about the criminal justice program at Purdue Northwest at pnw.edu/ criminal-justice.

Source: Purdue University Northwest

CALL US: 219.931.6700



Purdue University Northwest students received a visit from Kim Kardashian (upper left corner) while discussing wrongful conviction and mass incarceration in Associate Professor Nicky Ali Jackson's Wrongful Convictions class.

CLINE AVENUE BRIDGE DONATES OPENING DAY CEREMONY PROCEEDS

East Chicago, Ind., February 11, 2021 - Cline Avenue Bridge, LLC, owned and operated by United Bridge Partners (UBP), announces that it has donated the proceeds from their ribbon cutting and ceremonial first drive to two local non-profits: Lake Area United Way and East Chicago Katherine House Boys & Girls Club. Attendees of the December 2020 opening ceremonies contributed \$20 or more per vehicle to be among the first to drive across the new Cline Avenue Bridge before it opened to traffic, with project partners and donors from afar also contributing. The event raised over \$2,800 which was shared evenly with the two organizations.

of part infrastructure supporting Northwest Indiana, Cline Avenue Bridge is dedicated to elevating the community in which they reside. The opening fundraiser is just one way they deliver on that commitment; they also support other neighboring non-profit organizations, create jobs with local labor and materials, and built and operate their project with the highest environmental standards. Additionally, Cline Avenue Bridge will contribute ten cents of every collected toll to the city of East Chicago, providing a further boost to the local area.

Lisa Daugherty, president and CEO of Lake Area United Way expressed the significance of this contribution: "Lake Area United Way helps families thrive, and one way we achieve this is by connecting low-income working families with better paying jobs. We appreciate the donation from Cline Avenue Bridge because it will help us provide wraparound supports for families developing their skills to acquire the high-demand jobs currently available with employers in the local community."

"Our partnership with Cline Avenue Bridge was a natural progression. With their operations taking place in the city of East Chicago, their interest in ensuring the success of the city translates to ensuring the success of its youth residents," shared Ryan Smiley, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana. "As we connect kids on a path toward their great futures, Cline Avenue Bridge is providing unlimited access to such possibilities on their journey into productive adulthood. For this, we are most thankful."

Cline Avenue Bridge, LLC is owned by United Bridge Partners (UBP), a private infrastructure company that finances, designs, builds, owns, and operates private toll bridges across the United States, meeting the needs of underfunded state and municipal governments to replace failing bridge infrastructure. UBP is funded by a \$1 billion capital commitment



(L-R):): Laura Weber, communications specialist at Cline Avenue Bridge, presents a ceremonial check to Andriana Cobb, Club member and East Chicago Katherine House Club's Youth of the Year and Tracette White, East Chicago Katherine House Club Director. The Cline-Avenue-Bridge-sponsored climbing wall and mural is in the background.

from the New American Bridges Fund, an affiliate of American Infrastructure Funds, and uses no local, state, or federal financing to accomplish private bridge projects. The Cine Avenue Bridge reconnects SR 912 to Interstate 90 and serves as "The Gateway of Lake County" while providing the most direct route into Lake County and the most timesaving route to Chicago. For more information, visit clineave.com

Source: Cline Avenue Bridge



(L-R): Laura Weber, communications specialist at Cline Avenue Bridge, presents the donation to Lake Area United Way president and CEO Lisa Daugherty.

Lakeshore Public Media Completes Critical Infrastructure Upgrades Thanks to Grant from Legacy Foundation



(L-R):): Carolyn Saxton, President Legacy Foundation James A. Muhammad, President and CEO Lakeshore Public Media

MERRILLVILLE, IN — With final funds provided by the Legacy Foundation, Lakeshore Public Media announced today that it has completed the final phase of its critical system infrastructure upgrades.

In late 2020, the public broadcaster began work to implement the final step of its two-stage plan to install electrical systems equipment upgrades that would provide uninterrupted power in the event of an outage.

With support from a grant from the Legacy Foundation, Lakeshore Public Media purchased three UPS systems designated to power its critical components until the station's generators can come fully online. The grant also helped to pay for the electrical work needed to incorporate the systems safely into the station's current operations.

With the final phase complete, Lakeshore Public Media should be able to avoid interruptions to its on-air programming due to sudden loss of electrical power. The systems and new safeguards should also prevent potential damage to its delicate infrastructure systems from a power surge or a power loss.

"We want to thank the Legacy Foundation and everyone who has supported Lakeshore to help fund these infrastructure improvements," said James A. Muhammad, President and CEO of Lakeshore Public

Media. "We are confident that we can now provide reliable, uninterrupted service to people across Northwest Indiana and Chicagoland for years and years to come."

In 2018, a violent storm damaged the Lakeshore PBS TV transmitter, knocking the station off the air. Further complications lead ongoing outages that weren't resolved until line repairs were completed and a new transmitter was installed in June 2019.

In total Lakeshore Public Media has committed almost \$500,000 in equipment and repairs over the last two years, removing the old transmitter and accompanying equipment and purchasing a new solidstate transmitter. The new system eliminates single points of failure, operates on much less power and will be ATSC 3.0 ready, so it will be equipped for the next generation of broadcasting.

"It takes a large investment in capital to operate a community-licensed, nonprofit TV and radio station, and having partners like Legacy Foundation is vital to our long-term ability to effectively provide our service to the community," Muhammad continued. "Through Legacy's ongoing support, we are better positioned to continue to provide engaging educational and informational programming and emergency alerts for Northwest Indiana - where we were created to serve."

Lakeshore PBS signed on the air November 1987 as WYIN Channel 56, a community licensed public

television station. The nonprofit organization continued to upgrade the quality of station production and broadcast equipment over the years, with revenue generated through member contributions and support from local businesses and organizations, as well as state and federal grants.

Over 30 years later, the station remains the sole televised source for local information centered on Northwest Indiana. Operating out of its Merrillville studios, Lakeshore Public Media is a member of the Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations, serving Indiana's second largest urban area through their Lakeshore PBS and Lakeshore Public Radio service.

Lakeshore PBS broadcasts its main channel over the air on 56, on Comcast on 17 or 21 (HD Channel 239), on Dish Network HD Channel 6320, AT&T U-verse HD Channel 1056, Mediacom Channel 16 and DirecTV on 56 and streaming live online at lakeshorepbs.org. Lakeshore Public Radio can be heard on 89.1 FM and streaming online at lakeshorepublicradio.org.

Legacy Foundation invests in nonprofit services and capacity building efforts throughout Lake County, Ind. Through the generosity of a wide base of donors, Legacy Foundation has awarded \$40 million in grants and scholarships to nonprofit organizations and individuals since its founding in 1992. Learn more at www.legacyfdn. org.

Source: Lakeshore Public

CALL US: 219.931.6700

Media

The 2021 City of Hammond Animal License are now due

Renewal licenses cost is \$5.00 for animals that are spayed/ neutered; \$10.00 for animals who are intact.

After March 31st, a late fee of \$10.00 per animal will be assessed in addition to the license fee.

Licenses can be purchased at the City Controller's Office at Hammond City Hall, 5925 Calumet Avenue, Hammond, IN or on-line at gohammond.com, Department Controller



SEEKING INFORMATION

ASSAULT ON FEDERAL OFFICERS AND VIOLENCE AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL WASHINGTON, D.C. JANUARY 6, 2021



Photograph #117-AFO



Photograph #118-AFO



Photograph #119-AFO



Photograph #120-AFO



Photograph #121-AFO



Photograph #122-AFO



Photograph #123-AFO



Photograph #124-AFO



Photograph #125-AFO



Photograph #126-AFO

DETAILS

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Washington Field Office is seeking the public's assistance in identifying individuals who made unlawful entry into the United States Capitol Building and assaulted federal law enforcement personnel on January 6, 2021, in Washington, D.C.

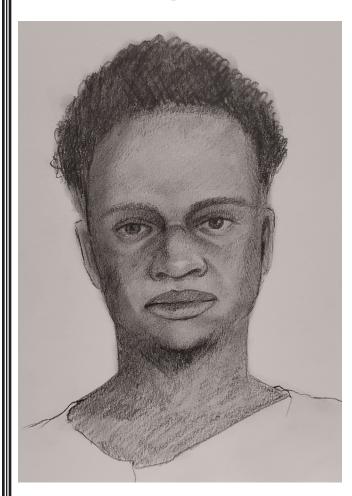
Anyone with information regarding these individuals, or anyone who witnessed any unlawful violent actions at the Capitol or near the area, is asked to contact the FBI's Toll-Free Tipline at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324) to verbally report tips. You may also submit any information, photos, or videos that could be relevant online at fbi.gov/USCapitol. You may also contact your local FBI office or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

When calling to provide a tip on one of these individuals, please reference the above photo number, including the AFO. **Field Office**: Washington D.C.

www.fbi.gov

HOMICIDE OF JOETTE "JO JO" MALONE

Sketch of person of interest in the homicide of Joette "Jo Jo" Malone



The FBI has increased the reward for information leading to the identification and arrest of the individual(s) responsible for the homicide of Jo Jo Malone up to \$15,000 with an additional \$5,000 to be added by a third party.

On July 29, 2020, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Hammond Police were dispatched to the Kennedy Crossing apartment complex in the 3300 block of Craig Drive in reference to shots fired. Upon arrival, officers located a vehicle occupied by a mother, Ronnica Taylor, and her daughter, Joette "Jo Jo"

Malone. Jo Jo was two years old and had been struck by a bullet from an unknown location. The mother was not harmed in the incident but was transported to a local hospital. The child was flown to a Chicago children's hospital where she later died from the injuries sustained in the shooting.

The sketch is a person of interest in the investigation. He is believed to be a black male, approximately 18-25 years old, medium height, and thin build.

The Hammond Police Department asks that

everyone please spread this information to anyone you can, and come forward if you know anything that may be valuable to this investigation so that we may bring justice to those involved and assist in bringing peace to Jo Jo's family.

Anyone with information related to this homicide is asked to please contact the Hammond Police Detective Bureau at (219) 852-2906, the FBI's Indianapolis Field Office at (317) 595-4000, or submit tips online at tips.fbi.gov.

Source: Hammond Police

