



MEDIA RELEASE

Temple Police Department investigates a shooting, 1 deceased

TEMPLE, TX (October 11, 2024) – UPDATE: The Temple Police Department’s initial investigation reveals an individual identified as Vernon Johnson, entered his neighbor’s backyard where an argument ensued. At some point during the altercation, Mr. Johnson was shot multiple times.

The Temple Police Department has identified the individual transported to the hospital as 54-year-old Vernon Johnson from Temple, TX. 52-year-old David Tate from Temple, TX has been arrested for murder. This case is currently being reviewed by the Bell County District Attorney’s Office.

TEMPLE, TX (October 9, 2024) – The Temple Police Department is investigating a shooting that left one individual deceased.

On Wednesday, October 9, at around 7:20 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 700 block of Luna Lane for a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located one individual with multiple gunshot wounds. Officers spoke with the homeowner who advised an individual had entered his yard and the homeowner had shot him multiple times.

One individual was transported to the hospital in critical condition and was pronounced deceased after arrival. The Justice of the Peace Larry Wilkey declared the time of death as 7:55 p.m. and ordered an autopsy from the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences. No other injuries have been reported at this time, and there is no threat to the public.

This case is under investigation. Anyone with information should contact the Temple Police Department at 254-298-5500 or the Bell County Crime Stoppers at 254-526-8477, where callers can report anonymously. Tips can also be submitted anonymously at bellcountycrimestoppers.com.