



Sheriff Jimmy Thornton
Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office
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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2010

TOPIC: Murder Suspect Taken into Custody

FOR RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sampson Co. Sheriff's Office - Capt. Eric Pope @ (910) 592-4141

Clinton, NC – On Sunday, June 27, 2010, around 4:29 AM, the Sampson County E-911 Center received a call from an individual who was transporting a gunshot victim to Sampson Regional Medical Center by private vehicle. The caller advised the 911 Operator that the victim, identified as Christopher Romaine Jones of Browns Church Road, Clinton, NC, had been shot at an un-named nightclub in Turkey, NC.

Deputies with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office and officers with the Clinton Police Department responded to Sampson Regional Medical Center, where Christopher Jones was pronounced dead. Through interviews with individuals accompanying the victim to the hospital, it was determined that the shooting occurred at a location on Wilmington Road, outside of Turkey, NC, known as the "Pump House." According to witnesses, there had been a private party at the location when gunshots erupted and Mr. Jones was struck.

Investigators identified Devante Rashawn Dixon, age 22, of Clinton, NC, as the suspect in the murder of Christopher Jones. After three days of searching for Dixon, a tip to Clinton Police Officers led to the discovery of Dixon at 307 Park Avenue in Clinton.

An officer with the Clinton Police Department received a tip and notified Sheriff's investigators of the possible location. Around 2:45 PM, on June 29th, officers with the Clinton Police Department and Sampson County Sheriff's deputies went to 307 Park Avenue to follow up on the tip. A search of the residence revealed Dixon hiding under a pile of clothes in the rear of the residence. Dixon was immediately taken into custody and transported to the Sampson County Sheriff's Office for processing.

Sheriff Thornton was very thankful to the investigators, deputies, and officers who spent countless hours following up on leads and conducting surveillance on locations Dixon had frequented in the past. "Our intelligence sharing between agencies was

phenomenal. Everyone worked to ensure that Devante Dixon was located and taken into custody once he was identified as a suspect in the murder of Christopher Jones.

Hopefully, the arrest will bring some closure for the family of Mr. Jones. My prayers and thoughts are certainly with them during this tragic time”, stated Thornton.



Devante Rashawn Dixon

DOB: 12/04/1987