



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

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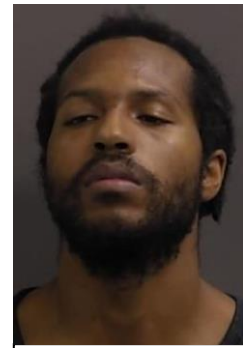
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
prosecutor@co.delaware.in.us
Date: July 25, 2024

**TYLER ABRAMS SENTENCED TO 70 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR 2022 BRUTAL MURDER IN WALMART PARKING LOT**

Muncie Indiana – Earlier today, the Honorable Thomas A. Cannon Jr., Judge of the Delaware County Circuit Court No. 5 sentenced Tyler Abrams (DOB 5/18/1990) to 60 in prison. The Judge imposed an additional 10 years in prison based upon the firearm enhancement. On April 2, 2024, Abrams pled guilty to Murder, a Felony and admitted the firearm enhancement. Pursuant to Indiana law, the Court can impose an additional 5 – 20 years in prison in addition to the total sentence on the offense of murder. A copy of the Affidavit for Probable Cause for Arrest is attached. During The sentencing hearing, both Chief Deputy Prosecutor Zach Craig and the Court noted that there was significant evidence of Abrams' planning and that the Abrams stalked and then executed the victim within arm's reach of the victim's two (2) young children. After the sentencing hearing, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman said "I am glad that another violent offender has been taken off the streets. We as a society are much safer with Tyler Abrams behind bars. Although nothing can bring Samuel Gillum back to his family and friends, I hope and pray that this sentence will be the first step in the healing process for Samuel's family and friends. I am proud of Chief Deputy Prosecutor Zach Craig and the Muncie Police Department for their hard work and dedication in this case.



Tyler Abrams

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STATE OF INDIANA)
)
DELAWARE COUNTY)

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2022 TERM

1857

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, (Joseph Duckham), a police officer of the Muncie Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Tyler Abrams

D.O.B.: 05/18/1990

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 2827 N. Everbrook Ln. Muncie, IN 47304

DATE OF ARREST: 07/31/2022

TIME OF ARREST: 2110hrs

CHARGE 1: Murder

CHARGE 2: Criminal Recklessness- Level 5

CHARGE 3: Obstruction of Justice- Level 6

CHARGE 4: Pointing a Firearm- Level 6

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said Arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:

On July 30, 2022, at approximately 8:44 PM, Delaware County Dispatch was called in reference to a shooting that had occurred in the parking lot of Walmart North, located at 4801 W. Clara Ln.; Muncie, IN. Muncie Police and other emergency personnel then responded to the scene. Upon arrival, Sam Gillum was located on the ground in the parking lot suffering from an apparent gunshot wound to his head. EMS transported Gillum to IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, where he was subsequently pronounced deceased.

Initial eyewitness statements were that a black male in dark shorts and a red shirt had shot the Victim in the parking lot and then fled on foot to the west and exited Walmart's parking lot onto Morrison Road. Investigators were able to obtain Walmart surveillance video which captured the shooting. In the video, the Victim and his wife can be seen exiting the store and pushing a shopping cart to their vehicle. A male individual wearing dark shorts and a red shirt can then be seen walking towards the Victim's vehicle. When the individual in the red shirt makes it to the Victim's vehicle, he raises his hand as if he is pointing something at the Victim. The individual appears to be holding something in his hand at that point. The individual in the red shirt then turns and runs to the southwest side of the parking lot. The individual can also be seen wearing what appears to be a black Covid-style mask.

After obtaining the initial information about the shooter's identity, officers began searching in that area for the suspect. Investigators made contact with another eyewitness in the area. This individual was fishing in a pond located to the west of Walmart. Around the time of the shooting, this person observed a black male wearing dark shorts, no shirt and carrying a gray, plastic shopping bag (similar to the appearance of Walmart shopping bags). The black male was also carrying a red shirt. The black male was walking to west and appeared to have come from the direction of Walmart. The black male was walking quickly and appeared to be out of breath.

PIH: 8/3/22

Charges Due: 8/8/22

STATE OF INDIANA)
)
DELAWARE COUNTY)

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2022 TERM

Police then located Tyler C. Abrams (DOB – 05/18/90) hiding near a residence off of Nebo Road approximately one (1) mile from Walmart. When officers approached Abrams, he immediately put his hands in the air and said, “I give up, I’m turning myself in.” At that point, Abrams taken into custody. When officers first made contact with Abrams, he was observed wearing blue shorts and had no shirt on. However, there a red shirt that matches the shirt being worn by the shooter in the Walmart surveillance video on the ground next to Abrams. The individual depicted in the Walmart surveillance videos matches Abrams’s description and appearance. After taking Abrams into custody, investigators seized Abrams’s clothing, which are blue shorts, red shirt & white shoes. Officers did not locate a firearm on Abrams. Abrams was taken into custody at approximately 2110hrs, approximately 26 minutes after shooting Gillum. It appears that Abrams has discarded the firearm within 26 minutes of shooting Gillum and fleeing the scene.

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.
/s/ OFFICER: Joseph Duckham MPD 1805 DATE: 7/31/2022

JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

The undersigned, being a Judicial officer of Delaware County, and having reviewed the foregoing affidavit, now determines that probable cause existed for the arrest of said arrestee, and now fixes bond in the penal sum of \$ NO BOND

DATED: 8/1/2022

SIGNED: Marianne Vorhees

CHARGES TO BE FILED BY: 8/8/22

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT