

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz and Wareham Police Chief Richard M. Stanley today announced that Vernon Carter (D.O.B. 07-20-89) of New Bedford has been charged for the shooting death of Scott Monteiro which occurred in Wareham on Saturday, September 5, 2009.

At 00:37hrs on Saturday, September 5, 2009, the Wareham Police Department received a call of a disturbance at 24 Elmwood Street in the Parkwood Beach area. While officers were responding to the scene they received further information that a man had been shot. Emergency Medical Services were requested. When the first responding officers arrived at the scene they found a male victim, later identified as Scott Monteiro (D.O.B. 07-23-88) of 74 Myrtle Street, New Bedford. Monteiro was inside the house suffering from what appeared to be a gun shot wound to the head. Wareham EMS transported Monteiro to a local hospital. He was then transported by Med Flight helicopter to a Boston area hospital where he was pronounced dead on Saturday afternoon.

The case has been under investigation by the State Police Detectives assigned to the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office and the Wareham Police Department Detective Division. As a result of the ongoing investigation it was determined that Vernon Carter arrived at a party at 24 Elmwood Street at approximately 11:30 p.m. Friday, September 5, 2009. While at the party, Carter demanded a chain necklace from Sheldon Santos (D.O.B. 02-12-92) of 4 Dusty Lane, Onset, at gunpoint. Carter then shot Scott Monteiro when he tried to intervene.

Vernon Carter was arrested by the State Police in New Bedford at approximately 4:30 p.m. Sunday, September 6, 2009. He is charged with 1st Degree Murder, Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon (to wit a handgun), Assault with Intent to Rob, Unlawful Possession of a Gun, and Unlawful Possession of Ammunition.

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After Carter's arrest District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz stated, "This was a senseless and violent crime that took the life of a young man. I want to commend the witnesses who did the right thing and came forward to help investigators solve this case. I also want to commend the hard work of the investigators from both the Wareham Police Department and the State Police Detectives assigned to my office. They worked tirelessly over the last several days to find the person responsible for Scott Monteiro's death. Chief Stanley and the residents of Wareham are right to be proud of the work that has been done."

Wareham Chief Richard M. Stanley said, "A tremendous amount of teamwork went into this investigation by members of the Wareham Police Department and the State Police Detectives assigned to the Plymouth County District Attorneys Office. The staff of both agencies worked literally day and night over the holiday weekend to build the case, make an arrest and take this dangerous individual off the street. Residents of our community are grateful for these efforts and that of the fine work of District Attorney Timothy Cruz and his staff."

Vernon Carter will be arraigned Tuesday morning in the Wareham District Court. No further comment will be made at this time. District Attorney Cruz and Chief Stanley will be available for comment at the Wareham District Court following the arraignment Tuesday.