



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Suspect in New Year's murder of Ellicott City teen dies at hospital *Sean Crizer, 15, pronounced dead from self-inflicted gunshot wound*

Howard County police have been notified that the suspect in the New Year's Day killing of an Ellicott City teen has died at Shock Trauma as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Sean Crizer, 15, of Alice Avenue in Ellicott City, was the suspect in the murder of Charlotte Zaremba, 16, and the shooting of her mother Suzanne, inside their Ellicott City home Jan. 1 at around 2 a.m.

Police have learned that Charlotte Zaremba's parents left their house in the 4800 block of Knoll Glen Road on New Year's Eve to pick up Charlotte from a party. They returned home and a short time later, Suzanne Zaremba heard a scuffle in her daughter's bedroom. She entered the room and found Charlotte struggling with a masked suspect. The suspect, now known to be Crizer, fired a shot at Suzanne Zaremba and another at her daughter Charlotte, before turning the gun on himself. Both the mask and the gun were recovered at the scene.

Charlotte Zaremba, 16, was pronounced dead at Howard County General Hospital. Suzanne Zaremba, 52, was taken to Shock Trauma, where she was treated and released. Crizer was transported to Shock Trauma in critical condition, where he remained until his passing.

At this stage of the investigation, police have not found a link between the suspect and the victim. They are known to have lived in the same neighborhood and attended the same school, but police have not found any indication of a relationship between the two.

Detectives believe Crizer is responsible for burglarizing at least two homes in the same neighborhood, one on Alice Avenue and the other on Marybeth Way, in the weeks leading up to the shooting. The gun Crizer used had been reported stolen from the residence on Marybeth Way.

Police do not know the motive in the homicide and do not know if Crizer was targeting Charlotte Zaremba or her home.

Detectives are continuing to investigate. Anyone with information should contact police at 410-313-STOP or HCPDcrimetips@howardcountymd.gov.

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