

## **Department of Communications**

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Karen Freeman-Wilson Mayor LaLosa Dent Burns Director of Communications

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## MAYOR URGES COMMUNITY HELP FOLLOWING FATAL SHOOTING OF GARY 14-YEAR OLD

**Gary, Indiana-**Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson and Gary Police continue to urge the public's help following a crossfire on the city's west side that fatally wounded 14-year old Arion Lilly.

Soon to graduate from Gary Middle School, family says Arion loved his family, friends and basketball. He loved to make people laugh and always wanted to make sure everyone was ok. Arion was struck down by a stray bullet last Thursday on 11<sup>th</sup> & Rutledge Street.

"As a mother, this tragedy is hard to imagine," stated Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson. "As the leader of this city, we are laser focused on bringing Arion Lilly's killer to justice. I stand with his mother, Cheryl Freeman and we are wrapping our arms around his family."

The mayor reiterated the need for the community's help and asks that any information about the shooting be provided to Detective Corporal James Bond at 219-881-1209 or 755-3852.