

North Carolina Public Records Act Request

The following information was received in response to a public records request submitted under the North Carolina Public Records Law (G.S. §132-1) by Lives Cut Short. Records were provided by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner on January 27, 2025.

CANDID ID: NC_22_1256

Decedent's Name: Unnamed Boy

Victim Age: 4 years

Sex: Male

Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino

Race: Black

Date of Death: 05/20/2022

Death County: Halifax

Cause of Death: Gunshot wounds- self-inflicted

Manner of Death: Accident

Preliminary Circumstances: On May 20, 2022, a 4-year-old boy died from an accidental self-inflicted gunshot wound at a residence on Delta Drive, just outside Roanoke Rapids in Halifax County, North Carolina. The child reportedly gained access to an unsecured firearm. Shafika Gwynn, 39, was charged with failing to store a firearm to protect minors in connection with the incident. Authorities believe the shooting was unintentional, and the investigation led to charges related to improper gun storage.