

# Girl, 6, is fatally shot in city; police seek yellow truck

**BY BILL BRYAN**  
*Of the Post-Dispatch*

St. Louis police searched the city Wednesday evening for a faded yellow pickup connected with the fatal shooting of a 6-year-old girl in front of her home near Fairground Park.

The shooting happened shortly after 4 p.m. as the girl was playing with other children in the 4200 block of Linton Avenue, near Penrose Street.

Two or three young men, who police say were the intended victims of the shooters, ducked the gunfire and escaped injury; they were taken to police headquarters for questioning. Detectives said the shooting appears to be gang-related.

The girl was pronounced dead at 4:41 p.m., on arrival at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. The hospital identified her as Dominique Evans.

Nine members of Dominique's family were at the hospital.

"I hope the police catch them before I do," said Larry Stewart of Ferguson, the

victim's uncle.

"We're going to get them," vowed Police Chief Ron Henderson, who showed up at the crime scene. "If this truck is in this city, we'll get it."

Three young men were reportedly in the truck, which drove slowly south on Linton before one of the occupants fired several shots from what was probably a semiautomatic weapon. The truck might have a gray stripe.

The neighborhood consists mostly of two-story brick flats; some are well kept, many are vacant.

Residents say the 4200 block of Linton has shootings and drug traffic daily, yet the police make few arrests. They say they have been "abandoned" by the police and city officials.

"You can't even let your children play in front of the house," said one woman. She had three girls in tow who appeared only slightly older than the victim.

"They'll catch whoever did this, because you can't shoot a child."

A couple who had several young children with them said the shooting was

the fourth drive-by shooting on the block this year. Police could not confirm that statement.

"This is going to happen again," the woman predicted. "The violence will never stop. It's sad, and it's a shame, but it's going to happen again."

One of the onlookers was Markese Mull, 23, a former member of the Nine Deuce Inglewood Family Gangsters who was making a homemade movie with a camcorder. Mull plans to put rap lyrics to his movie and show it to as many youngsters as he can.

"I have to get the message to the kids between 5 and 12 that gangs are not the answer," Mull said. "The older folks are gone."

In a related incident, three police officers were injured when two patrol cars speeding to the shooting scene collided at Linton and Carter Avenue. The three were taken to a hospital; none lost consciousness, and their injuries were not believed to be life-threatening. Their names were not immediately released.

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