

RETURN TO **NBC**LA.com

Outlook More

TODAY Nightly News Meet the Press Dateline msnbc Breaking News Newsvine Account

Home US World Politics Business Sports Entertainment Health Tech Science Travel Local Weather

*Recommended:*  
Defiant San Diego mayor quits, blames 'lynch mob' mentality

*Recommended:*  
Boy, 8, accused of intentionally killing 87-year-old woman in Louisiana

*Recommended:*  
'Fake gangsters': Teens accused in ballplayer's slaying liked attention

*Recommended:*  
Facing lawsuit, Georgia town holsters mandatory gun ownership law

# U.S. NEWS

on **NBC**NEWS.com

NBC News reporters bring you compelling stories from across the nation. For more US news, follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

[About this blog](#)
[Archives](#)
[E-mail updates](#)
[Follow on Twitter](#)
[Subscribe to RSS](#)
[Like](#) 1.3m

1214 comments

Recommend 1.9k

Tweet 74

Share 527

Print

8 hours ago

## DA: Teens accused in ballplayer's slaying won't be charged with hate crimes

older

newer

Duncan Police Chief Danny Ford and Stephens County District Attorney Jason Hicks believe that Chris Lane's alleged murderers had no gang affiliations.

**By Simon Moya-Smith, NBC News**

Three juveniles allegedly involved with the Aug. 16 shooting death of Australian college athlete Christopher Lane will not be charged with a hate crime, the Duncan, Okla., district attorney said Friday.

"At this point, the evidence does not support the theory that Christopher Lane was targeted based

upon his race or nationality,” said District Attorney Jason Hicks. “The evidence is insufficient to establish that race was the primary motive in the murder of Christopher Lane.”

Two teens, James Edwards, Jr., 15, and Chancey Luna, 16, have been charged with murder in the first degree of Lane, 22, a baseball player with Oklahoma’s East Central University.

The third juvenile, Michael Jones, 17, is charged with using a vehicle to facilitate the discharge of a firearm and accessory after the fact to murder, according to a press release by the district attorney’s office. All were charged as adults.



Essendon Baseball Club

Christopher Lane, an Australian baseball player, was shot and killed while out for a jog in an Oklahoma neighborhood, police said.

Lane was reportedly out for a jog when the three suspects, two of whom are black, randomly targeted Lane and shot him in the back, fatally wounding the student. One of three teens charged in the attack told police that they shot Lane because they “were bored” and decided to kill somebody.

If convicted, Edwards Jr. and Luna face up to life without parole. Jones faces a maximum of 45 years in prison.

#### Related story

#### [US gun culture is 'corrupting world,' says ex-Australia deputy PM](#)

1214 comments

Explore related topics: [oklahoma](#), [duncan](#), [christopher-lane](#), [michael-jones](#), [chancey-luna](#), [james-edwards-jr](#)

older

newer

## Most popular posts

30  
**Teen charged, second sought in**

3792  
**US gun culture is 'corrupting the world,'**

548  
**Horseback rider: Hannah Anderson**

874  
**DNA request latest twist in Hannah Anderson**

1214  
**DA: Teens accused in ballplayer's slaying won't**

<b>beating death of WWII vet, 88, in Spokane, Wash.</b> Updated 5 hours ago	<b>Australia ex-deputy PM says after Okla. slaying</b> 19 hours ago	<b>was in 'survival mode'</b> 6 days ago	<b>abduction saga</b> 3 days ago	<b>be charged with hate crimes</b> 8 hours ago
---	--	---	-------------------------------------	---

Browse

featured, crime, updated, weather, military, california, florida, texas, environment, new-york, shooting, us-news, education, chicago, police, murder, trayvon-martin, gulf-oil-spill, new-jersey, los-angeles, nbcnewyork, guns, colorado, afghanistan, kari-huus, obama, george-zimmerman, arizona, nbcbosangeles, barack-obama, sandy, boston, fire, politics, crime-and-courts, gay, veterans, connecticut, army, crime-courts

Archives

2013 August (349)

2012 July (461)

2011 June (405)

2010 May (461)

2009 April (608)

2008 March (548)

2007 February (510)

2006 January (563)

older

Most Commented

- 2 teens charged with first-degree murder in ballplayer's killing in Oklahoma (6743)
- 'He's turning blue': 911 caller describes moments after Oklahoma ballplayer shooting (3301)
- US gun culture is 'corrupting the world,' Australia ex-deputy PM says after Okla. slaying (3792)
- Hasan found guilty of premeditated murder in 2009 Fort Hood rampage (1112)
- Manning gets 35 years in prison for massive leak of US secrets (1807)
- 'Lucky we didn't have anyone killed': 20-year-old charged after school shooting (1424)
- DA: Teens accused in ballplayer's slaying won't be charged with hate crimes (1214)

Other blogs

- Cosmic Log
- Red Tape Chronicles
- PhotoBlog
- Investigations

NBCNEWS.com top stories

- US weighs military response against Syria
- Syrian doctor: Hundreds dead, thousands hurt
- Obama: Syria reports of chemical weapons a 'grave concern'
- Obama: GOP threat to shut down government 'not an economic plan'
- Joe Biden says son Beau is doing 'fine'
- Hasan guilty of murder in Fort Hood rampage
- Teen charged as adult in beating death of WWII vet
- 'Fake gangsters': Teens accused in ballplayer's slaying liked attention
- Soldier who massacred Afghan villagers gets life without parole
- Cruz headlines another event in early nominating state