



05-12-16

Pickens County Sheriff's Office Continues Investigation into Unexplained Shooting of Easley Woman

The Pickens County Sheriff's Office will continue to look for answers into the unexplained shooting of an Easley resident that occurred yesterday on Robert P. Jeanes Rd.

Deputies responded to the report of a shooting at 1264 Robert P. Jeanes Rd on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at approximately 11:57am at which time they located a female resident (45yoa) that had suffered injuries from shotguns pellets fired at her as she stood on her front porch.

The victim advised Deputies that she was shot by a neighbor that lived across the street for unknown reasons. There were no previous interactions or communications between the two that have been discovered by Sheriff's Detectives at this stage into the investigation.

Preliminary investigation into an approximate timeline of events reveals the following information:

<u>Time:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
11:50am	Female victim is shot while standing on the front porch of her residence with her dog
11:52am	Victim is able to walk back out on porch to retrieve cell phone that was dropped as she was shot the first time
11:52am	Victim is shot a second time and is able to see the shooter standing in his yard across the street. She recognizes him as the neighbor as he yells at her stating "If you want, I'll shoot you again". Victim does not know shooter's name.
11:54am	Deputies are dispatched to the scene
11:57am	First Deputy arrives on the scene and quickly interviews victim. Additional Deputies arrive to assist and approach residence where shooter is believed to be inside.
12:00am	Male subject is seen standing in the doorway of residence at 1257 Robert P. Jeanes Rd. Deputies attempt to engage in conversation with subject who appears agitated and confrontational. Subject refuses to exit residence and

makes statements indicating that he is armed. Male slams and locks door at which time the Sheriff's Office *Special Weapons and Tactics Team* is deployed.

Scene is secured and street blocked off as residence is contained by tactical team.

12:45pm Sheriff's Office *Crisis Negotiation Team* proceeds to attempt to make contact with subject in residence. Numerous phone calls are made with no contact. Additional attempts to make contact via public address system and bullhorn also unsuccessful.

Sheriff's Detectives present information to Pickens County Magistrate who issues Search warrant for residence under the premise to locate the assailant and/or evidence from shooting.

2:32pm Shooter is positively identified by the victim at the hospital by means of a photo line-up. Judge issues Arrest Warrant for Calvin Joseph Benton, Jr for the charge of **Attempted Murder**.

3:10pm Insertion of less-lethal chemical munitions into residence by tactical team in an effort to persuade subject to surrender.

3:36pm Forced entry into residence is initiated following failed attempts to persuade the subject to communicate or surrender. House found to be barricaded with plywood in multiple locations.

3:38pm Entry gained and subject located deceased and face down in front room of residence. No one else is inside residence.

4:00pm Scene is processed by Forensics Team and four weapons located and seized from residence to include two 12 gauge shotguns, one .45 caliber semi-auto pistol and one .40 caliber semi-auto. Both pistols and one shotgun found loaded and within arm's reach of suspect. One of the pistols is inside subject's pants pocket.

Deceased is identified to be Calvin Joseph Benton, Jr (59yoa) with no visible signs of trauma on the suspect. Autopsy scheduled for later today by Pickens County Coroner.

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