



09-10-16

## Pickens County Sheriff's Office Arrests Easley Woman in Fatal Shooting of Her Neighbor

The Pickens County Sheriff's Office has arrested an Easley woman following the fatal shooting of a neighbor late this afternoon.

The Sheriff's Office responded to a residence on Melissa Rd following a report at approximately 3:00pm today that a man had been shot. Deputies arrived in approximately eight minutes and located a male in his late 50's that had been shot at least one time in the torso with what appeared to have been a shotgun. The victim was transported to the hospital by emergency medical personnel where he later died.

Detectives from the Sheriff's Office determined through investigation that a female acquaintance had come to the location and was seen by at least one witness to be in possession of a long gun just moments before a gunshot was heard by neighbors.

The victim, himself, identified the below female as the person that had shot him before he died at the hospital. A motive for the incident has not yet been determined in this early stage of the investigation.

**Rebecca Barten Smoak (57yoa)** was arrested at her home at approximately 8:15pm without incident and charged with the shooting. She was transported from her residence to a local hospital by EMS personnel where she currently is being treated due to her being found in an unconscious condition at the time of arrest. A shotgun was recovered from the residence.

Pending Smoak's release from the hospital, she will be transported to the Pickens County Detention Facility where she will be detained and presented with the following charges:

<u>Charge:</u>	<u>Warrant#:</u>	<u>Arrest Date:</u>
Murder	2016A3910101038	09-10-16
Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime	2016A3910101039	09-10-16

The identity of the victim and his exact address are not being released until a later date and time pending the notification of family members by the Coroner's Office. Any additional inquiries regarding the victim should be directed to the Coroner's Office tomorrow afternoon.

An autopsy of the victim has been requested by the Coroner's Office to confirm the manner and cause of death.

Copies of the Arrest Warrants have been attached to this Media Release and a mug shot of Rebecca Barten Smoak will be available on the Sheriff's Office website (Inmate Search Portal) once she has been released from the hospital and booked into the Detention Facility. We do not have any information as to when that will be.

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