



KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

301 VIRGINIA STREET EAST

CHARLESTON, WV. 25301

304-357-0169

Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford

Chief Deputy Joseph H. Crawford

NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 13, 2024.

Contact: Sergeant Joshua L. Lester

joshualester@kcsso.us

Phone: 304.357.0732 office

681.910.3649 cell

Death Investigation

Update 8/30/24, 12:00 p.m. – The Kanawha County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigative Section has filed charges in Kanawha County Magistrate Court and arrested a suspect in the suspicious death of 70-year-old, Richard Crowder. Mr. Crowder was found deceased inside his Mink Shoals home on February 13, 2024, with a gunshot wound. The investigation started after a healthcare worker called authorities to conduct a well-being check when Mr. Crowder did not come to his door.

During the investigation, detectives determined Ms. Brittany Hickman was the last person seen with the victim. Ms. Hickman was located nearby the day Mr. Crowder's body was discovered and detectives collected evidence that was believed to place her at the crime scene. DNA and other forensic evidence have now confirmed Ms. Hickman was involved in the homicide of Mr. Crowder.

Detectives with the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office have arrested Ms. Hickman on 1st-degree murder charges, a felony in West Virginia. She is expected to be arraigned in Magistrate Court this afternoon.

Update 2/13/24, 7:30 p.m. – The suspicious death investigation on Otter Lane in Mink Shoals remains under investigation as detectives continue to process evidence at the scene.

Crime Scene Investigators have identified the male as a Mink Shoals resident in his 70s; however, specific details regarding his identity are currently being withheld until notification has been made to his family. We hope to release more details about the victim in the coming days.



Follow us on

www.kanawhasheriff.us



KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
301 VIRGINIA STREET EAST
CHARLESTON, WV. 25301
304-357-0169

Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford
Chief Deputy Joseph H. Crawford

NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 13, 2024.

Contact: Sergeant Joshua L. Lester
joshualester@kcsso.us
Phone: 304.357.0732 office
681.910.3649 cell

We can confirm the victim suffered from a single gunshot wound and was found lying on the floor in his home. Detectives are working to put a timeline together and it is believed the incident may have occurred between Sunday and today.

Detectives have been canvassing the area all afternoon, collecting evidence, and interviewing potential witnesses; however, no suspects have been identified or charged at this time. We encourage anyone with any information to please reach out to [Lieutenant S.D. Snuffer](#) at [304-357-0556](tel:304-357-0556).

Mink Shoals, WV- Kanawha County Sheriff's Office Detectives are currently on scene and investigating a suspicious death at 6 Otter Lane in Mink Shoals.

Deputies responded to this residence after a healthcare worker for seniors requested a well-being check on a resident of the home. The worker was here to check on a patient with known medical issues but received no answer at the door or by telephone.

Deputies and medics arrived at the scene and made entry into the residence where they located a deceased male. The male has not been identified at this time.

Based on the initial observations, the death does seem suspicious; however, we are in the very early stages of this investigation with limited information. As we continue to gather information, additional statements will be released.

Should you have any information regarding this incident, please contact [Lieutenant S.D. Snuffer](#) at Kanawha County Sheriff's Office, [304-357-0556](tel:304-357-0556), or submit a "tip" at www.kanawhasheriff.us under the "Tips" tab.



Follow us on

www.kanawhasheriff.us