

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Larry Campbell, Sheriff

Leon County Sheriff's Office
2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 922-3300
www.leoncountysos.com

DATE: 12/11/2009

LCSO Arrests Ebony Butler for the Murder of Kevin Kitchens

In the early morning hours of July 20, 2008, at approximately 1:30AM, the Leon County Sheriff's Office responded to the report of a man found lying in the roadway of Whirlaway Trail near Lord Murphy Trail. The man had suffered a gunshot wound and died. The victim was identified as Kevin Brandon Kitchens. Kitchens was found in the roadway near his truck in the 3100 Block of Whirlaway Trail. Based on statements from witnesses, it was believed that the suspect may have been in the vehicle with Kitchens prior to this incident or Kitchens stopped for the suspect on the road. An autopsy confirmed that Kitchens died as a result of a gun shot wound to the left side of his abdomen.

During this investigation, Violent Crimes Detectives learned that Ebony Butler was seen with Kitchens, driving his vehicle just prior to this homicide. Ebony was interviewed and denied knowing Kitchens, or ever being in his vehicle. A search warrant was obtained by Detectives for Butler's DNA and compared with DNA evidence found in Kitchens vehicle. Butler's DNA was found on a beer can which was in the victim's vehicle and on the steering wheel of the victim's vehicle. Butler's cell phone records also revealed that she was in the area of Whirlaway Trail at the time of the murder.

Based on the finding of this investigation and statements from witnesses, it was determined that Butler was driving Kitchens vehicle on Whirlaway Trail when they stopped to talk to a friend of Kitchens. The witness stated he knew Butler and she was driving Kitchens vehicle. Kitchens and Butler began to argue, possibly over marijuana or money which Kitchens believed Butler had stolen from him. The witness left the area due to the argument, but stated he saw Kitchens get out of the passenger side of the vehicle as he drove away.

Detectives noted upon examination of the victim's vehicle that the passenger seat was forward as to fit a person much shorter than Kitchens. Butler's DNA, which was found on the steering wheel and on the beer can, confirmed that she was, in fact, in the vehicle and that she did know Kitchens. Detectives have determined that after the witness left the area, Kitchens exited the passenger side of his vehicle and Butler shot Kitchens with a .380 handgun as he stood next to the driver's side of the truck. Today an arrest warrant was issued for Ebony Butler and she has been arrested and charged with the murder of Kevin Kitchens.

Sgt. Tony Drzewiecki, Public Information Officer
Office-(850) 922-0732 Fax-(850) 410-2960
DrzewieT@leoncountyfl.gov

Arrested

Ebony Butler

DOB: 10/06/1977

Charges

2nd Degree Murder



Sgt. Tony Drzewiecki, Public Information Officer
Office-(850) 922-0732 Fax-(850) 410-2960
DrzewieT@leoncountyfl.gov