



NEWS

from SHERIFF ED GRAYBEAL

Washington County Sheriff's Office
112 West Jackson Boulevard, Jonesborough, TN

For Further Information:
(423)788-1414

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED FIRST DEGREE MURDER

July 28, 2020

Follow-up to information released yesterday regarding the rolling domestic on Tavern Hill which resulted in vehicle crash on Jackson Blvd in Jonesborough

According to Chief Deputy Leighta Laitinen, Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to a 9-1-1 call of a rolling domestic on Tavern Hill Road. Witnesses heard screaming and saw an individuals' leg hanging out of the car door trying to exit the vehicle. That vehicle continued onto Jackson Blvd and crashed with the vehicle landing on its top.

Upon arrival officers discovered 2 individuals inside the vehicle. The female had been shot and male was unconscious. Both individuals were transported to a local hospital.

It was later determined by investigators that Rodney Bennett, age 58 had kidnapped the victim at her residence. When the victim tried to escape, Bennett shot her in the neck and head shortly before the vehicle crashed. Both individuals are still hospitalized. The victim is remarkably in stable condition and Bennett is expected to be released soon into the custody of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

Warrants have been obtained charging Rodney Bennett with Murder, First Degree to wit: Attempted and Especially Aggravated Kidnapping with a \$100,000 bond.



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