For Further Information: (423)788-1414

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2020

Warrants filed on Cold case murder

According to Sheriff Ed Graybeal, An arrest has been made on a cold case homicide, which occurred on Christmas Eve in 2016. At that time the body of Keila Marie Gilbert-Taylor was found by fisherman on the Watauga River.

DNA found at the scene, matched a recently entered, offender submission, from Virginia, belonging to Zefrin Leigh Parker, Age 31, of Asheville NC.

Washington County Investigators followed up on countless leads and conducted numerous interviews during the 4 years long investigation. With the assistance of the Tennessee Bureau of investigations and the Asheville Police Department, Investigators were able to locate Parker in Ashville, North Carolina, where he was found to be homeless.

Parker is currently being held in Buncombe County North Carolina Jail, without bond, pending extradition to Tennessee where he has an outstanding warrant charging him with Felony Murder. In Tennessee, he will be held without bond.

