

NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT Press Release



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For Immediate Release

North Little Rock Police Arrest Homicide Suspect

North Little Rock, AR (August 18, 2021) – On August 13, 2021, at approximately 11:14 a.m., officers responded to the Kroger located at 4401 Camp Robinson for a reported stabbing. Officers made contact with James Booth (55, B/M) who was suffering from what appeared to be multiple stab wounds to the front torso/stomach area.

Witnesses provided officers with a description of the suspect. An individual matching the suspect's description was located a short distance away and later identified as Ethan Smith (18, B/M). When Smith observed the officers, he fled on foot and forcefully gained entry into a nearby residence. A female located inside the residence ushered Smith back outside and he attempted to flee a second time, but was taken into custody without incident.

Booth was transported to an area hospital for treatment but would later succumb to his injuries. Detectives with the North Little Rock Police Department responded to the scene and initiated an investigation. The scene was processed for evidence and interviews were conducted.

Smith was charged with Murder 1st Degree, Residential Burglary, Fleeing and Obstructing Governmental Operations. He was transported to the Pulaski County Regional Detention Facility, where he is being held without bond.

We encourage anyone with information concerning this incident to contact Detective Jeff Coburn at 501-771-7155 or the NLRPD Tip Line at 501-680-8439. Anyone with information can remain anonymous.

This investigation is still ongoing, and more information regarding this incident will be released as it becomes available.