



Winter Haven Police Department

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Media Release

Date: September 25, 2008

Time: 12:00 pm

Contact: Sergeant Brad Coleman
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Update 2 – The following is the probable cause narrative on the arrest affidavit filed by Winter Haven Police Detective Eric Outlaw on September 24, 2008. This is the narrative in its entirety.

“On the morning of September 24, 2008, Antonio McHellen was contacted at his home by the defendant Latesha Brokenshire. Brokenshire told McHellen that she killed her mother who was later identified as 59 year old Bonnie Hart. Brokenshire asked McHellen to help her move the body and conceal the crime. McHellen refused and at 0741 hours notified law enforcement. Law enforcement officers entered the home that Brokenshire and Hart share located at 2019 9th Street NW, Winter Haven. Inside the home Hart was found dead on the floor of her bedroom. Brokenshire was contacted by law enforcement and provided written consent for the search of this home. Crime scene investigators located an electrical cord and duct tape with blood and hair on it near Hart’s body. An associate medical examiner responded to the scene viewing Hart’s body. Hart suffered head trauma and ligature marks were found on her neck. Latesha Brokenshire was interviewed by the affiant (Detective Outlaw) and post Miranda she provided a sworn taped statement in which she stated that she had murdered her mother, Bonnie Hart, following an argument. She stated that she struck her mother on the head six or seven times with a large mug and then strangled her with an electrical cord while she was on the ground. She said that she wasn’t sure that her mother was dead so she covered her mouth and nose with duct tape and waited thirty minutes until she was sure that she was dead. She then removed the duct tape. Brokenshire said that she had killed her mother out of anger over the way she had treated her since her father died in January of 2007.”

Winter Haven Police detectives are continuing to actively seek information in reference to this case. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Eric Outlaw at (863) 291-5752 or Detective Mark Zagar at (863) 291-5730.

WHPD Case #08-45279

***** End of Media Release *****