

CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Sheriff Kristin Graziano
3691 Leeds Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405




NON-EMERGENCY
843-202-1700


DISPATCH
843-743-7200


CRIME STOPPERS
843-554-1111

North Charleston man charged in connection to vehicle fire, homicide

2024-004528

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 22, 2024

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office apprehended Brandon Eric Steplight, 19, of North Charleston, around 7 p.m. on Friday, April 19, 2024. Steplight is charged with Arson in the 1st Degree and Destruction or Removal of Human Remains in connection with the fatal vehicle fire the week prior.

Deputies responded to a call of a vehicle fire in the 9500 block of Koester Road in Ladson shortly before 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, 2024. A body was discovered in the vehicle after personnel extinguished the flames. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division and the Forensic Services Unit were immediately notified.

Due to the burns to the deceased, the identity of the victim and the cause of death were not readily apparent. Since then, the Charleston County Coroner's Office has identified the victim as Omarion Brown, 20, of North Charleston. The Coroner's Office has also stated Brown died as a result of gunshot wounds, with the manner of death being a homicide.

Steplight is being held in the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center with a cash bond set at \$85,000.

Enclosed in this release are the affidavits with each charge.

Booking photos can be found online at <https://inmatesearch.charlestoncounty.org/>.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office will continue to investigate the incident. Anyone with information is asked to call the Charleston County Sheriff's Office at 843-202-1700 or Crimestoppers of the Lowcountry at 843-554-1111. They can also contact Summerville Police Department.

CONTACT Public Information Office | pio@charlestoncounty.org

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