



# HORRY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Dedicated to Providing Comprehensive, Quality Law Enforcement*

2560 North Main Street, Suite 7 — Conway, SC 29526 — Tel: 843-915-5350 — Fax: 843-248-1886

**INVESTIGATOR: M. MARTIN**

**CASE NUMBER: 2023079279**

Defendant

Address

Warrant #

Offense

5 ■ Old Woods Rd Myrtle Beach SC

Suspicious death

## SYNOPSIS

On July 7, 2023 I was requested by Lt. DeBari to respond to 5 ■ Old Woods Rd. in the Myrtle Beach area in reference to a death investigation. Upon arrival I located the victim laying on the bathroom floor obviously deceased. The victim was clothed only in underwear and was laying on top of a broken table that is normally in a corner in the bathroom. I did not find any evidence of drug use in the bathroom nor on the victim's body. The victim is not a known drug user. The victim's friend stated that the victim was not acting right on the evening of July 6, 2023 but did state that the victim had not been drinking nor using any type of drug. The coroner stated that it seems that the victim suffered a cardiac event and scheduled an autopsy for July 8, 2023.

## VICTIM NOTIFICATION OF CASE STATUS

NAME: Mark Kearns

ADDRESS: 2 ■ Newton RD Aynor SC

DATE: 07/07/2023

TIME:

☐ BY PHONE

☐ IN PERSON

NAME:

ADDRESS:

DATE:

TIME:

☐ BY PHONE

☐ IN PERSON

## CRIMINAL VIOLATION INFORMATION

• DATE: TIME: LOCATION:

## ARREST INFORMATION

• DATE: TIME: LOCATION:

## WITNESS(S)

• NAME:

ADDRESS:

• NAME:

ADDRESS:

**CASE STATUS:** ☒ ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSED ☐ ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSED PENDING ARREST

☐ EXCEPTIONALLY CLEARED

☐ UNFOUNDED

☐ ARRESTED

☐ OFF. DEATH

☐ NO PROSECUTION

☐ EXTRADITION

☐ VIC. DECLINES COOPERATION

☐ JUVENILE NO CUSTODY

**COPY:** ☐ SOLICITOR'S COPY ☐ DEPARTMENT COPY ☐ D.J.J. COPY ☐ OFFICER COPY



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## Investigative Check List

**Case Number:** 2023079279

Yes	No	Pending	Document List
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Arrest Warrants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incident Report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed Supplemental Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Booking Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Miranda Form
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NCIC Report (Victims and Defendants)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certified Driving Record
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statement of Victim
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statement of Defendants
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statement of Witnesses      Recorded
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toxicology Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drug Report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Autopsy Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SLED Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DNA Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serology Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ballistic Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Court Orders
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Search Warrants
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trace Evidence Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crime Scene Photographs or Video
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Autopsy Photographs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tape Recorded Statements
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photographs of Marked Money or Other Exhibits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sketch, Charts or Maps of Crime Scene
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Lineup or Live Lineup
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	911 Tape (required on violent crimes)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Audio/Video Tape of Crime
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Address of all Potential Witnesses
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Names and Titles of All Chain of Custody Witnesses
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Records on Victim and Defendant
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Evidence
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photos of evidence or seized property returned to victim

For any item checked No, please explain why not?

**DO NOT APPLY TO THIS CASE**



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## Report of Investigation

**Investigating Officer: M. Martin**

<b>Case No:</b> 2023079279
<b>Offense:</b> Suspicious death
<b>Date:</b> 07/07/2023
<b>Suspect:</b> N/A
<b>Location:</b> 5 [REDACTED] Old Woods Rd. Myrtle Beach SC 29588
<b>Victim:</b> Mark Kearns

### **I. Synopsis**

On July 7, 2023 I was requested by Lt. DeBari to respond to 5 [REDACTED] Old Woods Rd. in the Myrtle Beach area in reference to a death investigation. Upon arrival I located the victim laying on the bathroom floor obviously deceased. The victim was clothed only in underwear and was laying on top of a broken table that is normally in a corner in the bathroom. I did not find any evidence of drug use in the bathroom nor on the victim's body. The victim is not a known drug user. The victim's friend stated that the victim was not acting right on the evening of July 6, 2023 but did state that the victim had not been drinking nor using any type of drug. The coroner stated that it seems that the victim suffered a cardiac event and scheduled an autopsy for July 8, 2023.

### **II. Introduction**

Cpl. Wypych narrative:

On July 7, 2023 I, Cpl Wypych, responded to 5 [REDACTED] Old Woods Rd in the Myrtle Beach section of Horry County for an unresponsive 36 year old male (Vic1). The victim's friend (Comp1) told me he picked up Vic1 on Wednesday afternoon for a place to sleep for a night or two. Comp1 last saw Vic1 around 2300 hours last night before he went to bed. This morning when Comp1 woke up he found Vic1 on the bathroom floor. Comp1 did not know of any medical issues or substance abuse problems Vic1 may have had. Coroner Trevathan and Det. Martin responded to assume the investigation. Nothing further. Responding units then went to Waccamaw Hospital to check on the victim's status and the hospital staff advised that they dispatched for a medical helicopter in order to transport the victim to MUSC. Hospital staff also advised that one of the victim's parents was on scene.

### **III. Scene**

The home was disorganized and had dog feces all around. The victim was found in the bathroom face up deceased.

#### **IV. Summary**

The victim had a previous history of drug abuse. Kearns was involved in a domestic dispute with his live in girlfriend and went to stay with a friend in Myrtle Beach where he was found deceased. The toxicology report shows that he had fatal levels Morphine, Amphetamines and Fentanyl.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. P. J.', is written over a horizontal line.

**Investigating Officer Signature**

## Case Report

### Administrative

Case Report Number	2023079279-002	Location	5 ■ OLD WOODS RD
Subject	Death Investigation//5 ■ Old Woods Rd//MB-29588	CSZ	MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29588
NCIC Inquiry		Location Name	
NCIC Entered		CL CAD Incident #	
Subject Identified	Yes	Verification	Verified
Subject Located	Yes	Verification Level	
Disposition	Unfounded	Jurisdiction	14
Entered On	7/24/2023 3:04:39 PM	Grid	14
Entered By	Martin, Mark	Sector	14
Reported On	7/7/2023	Map	
Reporting Officer	Martin, Mark	Census/Geo Code	
Reporting Agency	HORRY COUNTY POLICE	Tract/Geo Indicator	
Report Type	Follow-Up Report	Call Source	
Assisted By		Related Cases	
Occurred On (Date and Time)	Thursday 7/6/2023 11:00:00 PM	Means	
Or Between (Date and Time)	Friday 7/7/2023 7:12:00 AM	Other Means	
Dispatched Date/Time	2023-07- 07T07:17:56.047	Motives	
Arrived Date/Time	2023-07-07T08:16:47.58	Other Motives	
Departed Date/Time	2023-07- 07T10:24:53.853	Vehicle Activity	
		Direction Vehicle Traveling	
		Cross Street	
		Notified	

### For Exceptional Clearances

Clearance Basis  
Exceptional Clearance  
Date

### Narrative

On July 7, 2023 I, Cpl Wypych, responded to 5 ■ Old Woods Rd in the Myrtle Beach section of Horry County for an unresponsive 36 year old male (Vic1). The victim's friend (Comp1) told me he picked up Vic1 on Wednesday afternoon for a place to sleep for a night or two. Comp1 last saw Vic1 around 2300 hours last night before he went to bed. This morning when Comp1 woke up he found Vic1 on the bathroom floor. Comp1 did not know of any medical issues or substance abuse problems Vic1 may have had. Coroner Trevathan and Det. Martin responded to assume the investigation. Nothing further.

Offense

Offense	Death / No Foul Play Suspected (Natural)	Hate/Bias Specify	None (No Bias)
Code Section		Special Circumstance	
IBR Code		Domestic Violence	No
IBR Group		Premises Entered	
Crime Against		Entry	
UCR Hierarchy		Using	Unknown
Location Type	Residence/Home	Weapons	
Second Location Type		Criminal Activity	
Completed	Yes	Type Security	
Attempted To Burn Property		Tools	

Offenders

Victims

Name: Kearns, Mark Stucke Jr.

Victim Type	Individual
Victim of	Death / No Foul Play Suspected (Natural)
Rape Completed	
Is Complainant	No

Aliases

Alias

Alerts

Addresses

Address Type	Address	CSZ	County	Country	Location #
O - Other	2 Newton Rd	Aynor, SC 29511	Horry	USA - United States of America	
H - Home	1 9th Ave	Galivants Ferry, SC 29544	Horry	USA - United States of America	

Daytime Phones

Phone Type	Phone Number
M - Mobile	

Evening Phones

Phone Type	Phone Number
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Emails

Email Address
---------------

Sex Male  
Race White  
Ethnicity Not Hispanic or Latino  
DOB  
Age 36  
Eye Color Green  
Hair Color Black  
Facial Hair  
Complexion  
Height 5' 10"  
Weight 300  
Resident This Jurisdiction  
POB  
DLN  
DL State South Carolina

DL Country  
SSN  
Attire  
Employer/School  
Employer Address  
Employer CSZ  
Occupation/Grade  
Testify  
Injury  
Visible Injury  
Injury Description  
Complaint of Any Non-Visible Injuries  
Injury Weapons

Offender Relationships

Offender	Relationship
----------	--------------

Circumstances  
Just. Hom. Circ.  
Using Unknown  
Drug Type

LEOKA Info

Type Activity  
Assignment ORI-Other Jurisdiction

Notes

Witnesses

Other Entities

Name: [REDACTED]

Entity Type                  Complainant

Aliases

Alias [REDACTED]

Alerts

Addresses

Address Type	Address	CSZ	County	Country	Location #
H - Home	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

Daytime Phones

Phone Type	Phone Number
M - Mobile	[REDACTED]

Evening Phones

Phone Type	Phone Number
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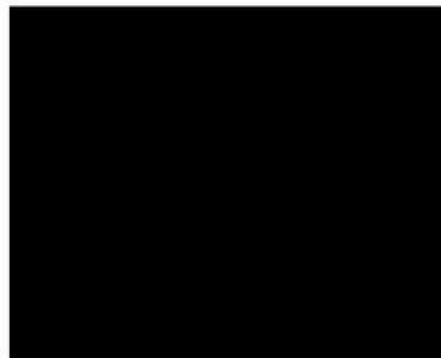
Email

Email Address [REDACTED]

Sex  
Race  
Ethnicity  
DOB  
Age  
Eye Color  
Hair Color  
Facial Hair  
Complexion



Height  
Weight  
Resident  
POB  
DLN  
DL State  
DL Country  
SSN  
Attire



## Decedent Identification

MDILog #	230707-651
Case number	23-2044
Status	Positive
Method a	Government Issued I.D.
Method b	
Last name	Kearns
First name	Mark
Middle name	
Suffix	
Alias	
Homeless	
Country	United States
Address 1	1 9th Avenue
Address 2	
City	Aynor
Township/Village	Galivants Ferry
State	South Carolina
County	Horry
Zip	29511
Inside city limits	
Phone	
Sex	Male
Race	White
Ethnicity	Non-Hispanic

Date of birth	
Date of death	07/07/2023 00:30
Date of death classifier	On
Time of death classifier	Approximate
Date LKA	
Time LKA	
Pronounced	07/07/2023 09:35
Pronouncer type	Deputy ME/C
Pronouncer last name	Trevathan
Pronouncer first name	Dale
Found deceased	07/07/2023 07:00
Found deceased by	
Age	
Drivers license	
Approximate height	
Approximate weight	
Registered donor	
SSN	
Marital status	
Student status	
Employment status	
Occupation	
Business/Industry	
Employer	
Education level	
Veteran status	
Athletic status	
Athletic description	

## First Responder

First responder status	Known
Last name	Wypych
First name	
Middle name	

Agency	Horry County Police Department
Phone 1	
Relationship	Law Enforcement

Circumstances

Scene investigated by Law Enforcement	Yes	Drugs involved	
Agency	HCPD	Evidence of alcohol	
Incident #		Hospice	
Officer	Martin	Location of death	Other Residence
Scene investigated by ME/C	Yes	Location of death description	
Photos taken	No	Medical treatments	
Doctor present	No	Alerts to the pathologist	
Date investigated	07/07/2023 09:30	Suspected behaviors	
Reason for reporting	Natural/Sudden/Unexpected Death		
Custodial agency related death			
Decedent in custody			
Police involved			
Suspected suicide			
Indian reservation			

Suspected MOD

Unknown

Suspected COD

Pending tox

Suspected COD/Circumstance

Investigator Summary

The deceased had been staying with his friend, [REDACTED] since Wednesday, he called him and asked him to come pick him up, as he needed a break from his wife. [REDACTED] was in the bed at 11 o'clock on the 6th when Mark entered the bedroom and stated he was going to take a shower that was located in the master bedroom. That was the last thing [REDACTED] remembers as he takes sleeping medication and fell asleep when he woke up the next morning, he found Mark on the bathroom floor called and unresponsive.

Dale, Trevathan, Deputy Coroner

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Postmortem Observations

Body location	Indoors	Non-therapeutic needle marks	
Body temperature		Injury to bowel	
Outside temperature		Rigor	Firm
Thermostat setting		Lividity a	Consistent with body position
Thermostat reading		Lividity b	
Room temperature		Decomposition	
		Position discovered	

External injury and descriptions

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Description

Next Of Kin

Next of kin status	Known	Notified	Yes, Kin at Scene
Last name	[REDACTED]	Notifying agency	HCCO
First name	[REDACTED]	Date/Time notified	
Middle name		Notified by	
Address	[REDACTED]	Claimed the body	
Phone 1			
Phone 2			
Mobile phone	[REDACTED]		
Relationship	[REDACTED]		

Suspected Medical Conditions

Tobacco Use / Smoking

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Use None indicated  
Type None indicated  
Describe (include daily use):

Alcohol Use

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None indicated  
Drinks per day