

# Lowndes County Parent Charged in 13-year-old's Fatal Shooting

LOWNDES COUNTY, Georgia - The Lowndes County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) has asked that anyone with information regarding the case of a 13-year-old's shooting death is encouraged to contact the LCSO Investigation Division at 229-671-2900. LCSO states that the investigation is ongoing.

A father – son dispute on Friday, December 22nd prompted the LCSO dispatch to the South Georgia Medical Center (SGMC) – Valdosta because of a person in the Emergency Room (ER) with a gunshot wound. The call came about 5:00 p.m.

The LCSO states that a thirteen (13) year old victim, Lavonte Seward Jr., had been transported to SGMC-Valdosta ER by a private vehicle from a Lowndes County residence in which both the father and son lived. Lifesaving efforts were immediately rendered by ER personnel, but the victim was pronounced deceased at the scene.

According to the LCSO investigation to date, they determined that Lavonte Seward Sr. (38), who is a Lowndes County resident, shot the teenager during a domestic disturbance at a residence.

The offender is in custody at the Lowndes County Jail on a charge of murder and is expected to receive additional charges.

According to law enforcement, Seward Sr. (38) has been charged in a weekend shooting that claimed the life of Seward Jr. (13). Seward Sr. is being held at the Lowndes County Jail on the charge of murder and additional charges are expected.

Lowndes County Sheriff Ashley Paulk has revealed that the family violence incident took place in the home, where the father shot his son in front of his 11-year-old sibling.

Sheriff Paulk has said, "It was a situation that had been festering for a while, the father said he got to a point where he felt threatened and he felt like the son was going to attack him. It's a tragic situation for the family. You just never know the things that go on behind the scenes to bring somebody to that point."

Information about the shooting can be made by contacting the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office Investigation Unit at 229-671-2900.



# Help Sought in New Years Eve Homicide in Valdosta

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

VALDOSTA, Georgia – An E911 call for help prompted Valdosta Police Department (VPD) Officers and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Personnel to a location in the 800 block of East Brookwood Place, Valdosta. The 12:27 a.m. call indicated that there had been a shooting. Upon arrival, the first responders located a man (540 with a gunshot wound.

The first responders immediately attempted to assist the wounded man with first aid, but he was pronounced deceased at the Brookwood residence.

An investigation of the man's death is now ongoing by VPD Detectives and Crime Scene Personnel.

The VPD has no further information for release at this time.

Any person with any information on this case is asked to contact the Valdosta Police Department Bureau of Investigative Services at 229-293-3145, or the crime tip line at 229-293-3091.



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Examples of custom designs include: a t-shirt with a girl's face and 'SO FREAKIN CUTE!', a t-shirt with an American flag and 'HONOR THE POLICE BECAUSE OF THE BEARS', a mug with 'yep, STILL SINGLE', a t-shirt with a hand holding a pen and 'Jaws', and a t-shirt with a boy's face and 'SO FREAKIN CUTE!'.

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For more information, contact Lt. Colby Clark  
 229-293-3099    [cclark@valdostacity.com](mailto:cclark@valdostacity.com)  
 Valdosta Police Department (500 N Toombs St)

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