



ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Cleveland Spruill, Sr.
Chief of Police

Press Release
2021-10020289
October 4, 2021

ACCPD Investigating Fatal Shooting

On October 2, 2021, at approximately 8:44PM, the Athens-Clarke County Police Department responded to a shooting at a residence in the 200 block of Morton Avenue. Upon arrival, officers located a 30-year-old female and a 31-year-old male, both of whom had been shot. The initial investigation indicates that John Townley, 31, arrived at the Morton Avenue address that was occupied by Laura Townley, 30, and Zachary Anderson, 32, of Dunwoody, GA. Shortly after Mr. Townley arrived at the residence, there was an altercation between Mr. Townley and Mr. Anderson involving a hatchet. At some point during the altercation, Anderson fired several shots from his firearm. As a result, Ms. Townley and Mr. Townley were struck. Both were transported to a local hospital. John Townley died as a result of his injuries. Laura Townley sustained serious injuries and is expected to survive.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective Black at (762) 400-7058 or via email at scott.black@accgov.com.

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Lieutenant Shaun Barnett
Public Information Office