



News Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 19, 2017

Joint Law Enforcement Efforts Results in Arrest of Man in Three Shootings

The Baton Rouge Police Department, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, Louisiana State Police, the East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office and ATF and FBI's efforts resulted in the arrest of a man for three shootings that occurred in the Baton Rouge area throughout the past week that resulted in the death of two men.

KENNETH JAMES GLEASON, 23, of 5144 SANDY RIDGE is charged with two counts of First Degree Murder and Illegal Use of a Weapon by the Baton Rouge Police Department and two counts of Attempted First Degree Murder, Aggravated Criminal Damage to Property and Illegal Use of Weapon by the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office.

Gleason is accused of firing shots at a residence on Sandy Ridge on September 11, 2017; shooting and killing 59-year-old Bruce Cofield on September 12, 2017 in the 3400 block of Florida Street; and fatally shooting forty-nine-year-old Donald Smart on September 14, 2017 in the 3000 block of Alaska Street.

Law Enforcement was able to link Gleason to these shootings through DNA and ballistic evidence processed by the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab. The motive is still unclear and this is an ongoing investigation.

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Sgt. L'Jean Mckneely Jr
Office of the Chief of Police
BRPD Public Information Office
(225)389-3948
lmckneely@brgov.com