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Thursday, January 30, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Cleveland Man Charged with First-Degree Murder in Ex-Wife's Death



Charlton Craig Liner has been charged with first-degree murder and felony murder in the killing of his ex-wife, Karen Liner, at a home in a Cleveland subdivision on Monday. According to an arrest report, dispatch received a frantic 911 call with a woman repeatedly yelling, "please stop," followed by the sound of gunshots. Officers arrived to find Karen Liner fatally shot in the head. Surveillance footage reportedly showed Charlton arriving and leaving the scene in a silver Lincoln MKZ.

A witness, Jay Collins, told police that Charlton returned home and admitted, "It's done, I killed her." Collins also stated that Charlton asked him to take his guns inside, but he refused to keep the murder weapon, placing it outside on a trailer tire. Charlton later left in a Range Rover, but officers spotted the vehicle and arrested him. He is currently being held at the Bradley County Justice Center without bond.

Karen Liner, a well-known realtor in Cleveland, had finalized her divorce from Charlton in September 2024. The couple shared two children. Divorce documents initially cited "inappropriate marital conduct" but were later settled under "irreconcilable differences."

Cleveland Police revealed that the Liner family has a tragic history of domestic violence, Charlton's father previously killed his mother before taking his own life in 2016. Charlton Liner appeared in court on Tuesday as the investigation into the case continues. *Source: [News Channel 9](#)*

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Thursday, January 30, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Audrey Sue Hester Wallace, 82, of Athens, passed away on Wednesday, January 29 surrounded by her loving family. She retired from Life Care of Athens, working in their dietary department. Funeral Services will be held Friday January 31, 2025 at Companion Funeral Home of Athens at 4pm. A Visitation will be held prior from 2-4pm. A graveside service will follow at Cedar Grove Cemetery of Athens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

Linda Rowland Loveday, 71 of Etowah, passed away Tuesday, January 28 at her home. She had worked as a CNA at Woods Memorial Nursing Home in Etowah. The family will be receiving friends Saturday, February 1, 2025 at Companion Funeral Home in Athens from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. The funeral service will follow the visitation at 5:00 p.m. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

Classes Coming to the Arts Center

Athens Area Council for the Arts is pleased to announce registration for a variety of art classes starting soon. **Participants should register three days before class starts.**

Get Your Hands Dirty: Try Wheel Throwing with Patricia Shook is open to participants ages 16 and older. The class meets Saturday, February 1, 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Students will learn how to throw their very own pottery. This one-day class is perfect for those who have never tried pottery wheel before, or are looking for a refresher. **The one-day workshop is \$85 and all materials are provided for up to 3 items.**

Handbuilding Pottery with Patricia Shook is open to ages 16 and older. The class that meets **Tuesdays, February 4 - March 11, 3:30 to 6:00 PM.** Students will learn the **basics of handbuilding with clay.** This six-week course will include various techniques and decoration methods. All finished pieces will be glazed and fired. This class is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience. **Handbuilding Pottery is \$175 and includes all materials.**

Information about the instructors, as well as links to register for all classes, is available online at athensartscouncil.org/classes.



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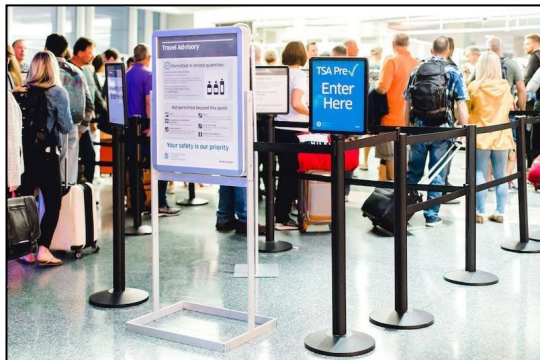
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Thursday, January 30, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

TSA Seizes Record Number of Firearms at TN Airports in 2024



Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers at McGhee Tyson Airport intercepted 28 firearms in passengers' luggage in 2024, marking an increase from last year's total of 27. Across Tennessee, TSA agents confiscated 319 guns, up from 313 in 2023.

Despite stricter security measures, the number of firearms found in airport luggage remains high. In the first half of 2024 alone, 158 guns were detected. The record year for firearm discoveries was 2022, with 32 seized at McGhee Tyson and 366 statewide.

TSA screened 16.83 million departing passengers in Tennessee in 2024, a 5.9% increase from the previous year. With one firearm detected for every 52,766 passengers, Tennessee's rate is more than twice the national average of one per 135,384 screenings.

Passengers caught with firearms at security checkpoints face serious consequences, including potential criminal charges, civil penalties of up to \$14,950 per violation, loss of TSA PreCheck eligibility for up to five years, and enhanced screening for future travel.

McGhee Tyson Airport also set a new passenger record in 2024, serving 3.3 million travelers—the highest in its history. *Source: WATE.com*

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Thursday, January 30, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

Oak Ridge to Host Inaugural 2025 SEC Rowing Championship



The inaugural Southeastern Conference Rowing Championship will be held at Melton Lake in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, on Sunday, May 11, as was announced by the SEC Wednesday morning. In August, rowing became the 22nd sport to be sponsored by the conference and the 13th women's sport in which an SEC Championship is conducted. Four SEC universities currently sponsor the sport of rowing and will participate in the championship: Alabama, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

"We are thrilled for the first-ever SEC Rowing Championship to be coming to East Tennessee this spring," head coach Kim Cupini said. "This is a huge milestone for our

program and for the sport of rowing in the Southeastern Conference. Our team has worked incredibly hard, and there's no better place to showcase our talent than right here at home. I can't wait for our athletes to compete on this stage and for our fans to experience the energy and excitement of championship rowing."

The Melton Lake Rowing venue, home of the Oak Ridge Rowing Association, has more than 30 miles of well-sheltered and calm water with fully buoyed seven-lane 1,000- and 2,000-meter racecourses for sprint races. Located 17 miles below Norris Dam, the Oak Ridge Rowing venue is the beneficiary of the reservoir, using the straight and sheltered area at the northeast City limit for its sprint race course since 1978. Oak Ridge Rowing Association installed an additional 13.5-meter-wide racing lanes on the waterway in February and March of 2017, as part of the official venue for larger regattas.

"We believe Oak Ridge will provide an excellent venue for our student-athletes, and we appreciate the work of the Oak Ridge Rowing Association in hosting the event." SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said. Race times and broadcast information will be announced at a later date.

The Lady Vols capped the 2024 campaign by placing third nationally at the NCAA Championship. Cupini earned CRCA National Coach of the Year honors in her first season at the helm on Rocky Top. In addition, the Tennessee coaching staff collectively earned the CRCA Staff of the Year Award.

Tennessee begins its 2025 season with a race versus Louisville on Feb. 15 in Cocoa, Florida. Its first home event comes on March 29 when UT battles Stanford on Melton Hill Lake. The event marks a battle between two of the nation's top three teams from a season ago.

Originally Reported on UTSports.com

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