

Shreveport Police Dept.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vehicle burglary ends tragically



Christian Smith

A Shreveport woman is dead and an alleged burglary suspect remains hospitalized Sunday afternoon following a vehicle burglary and subsequent car crash.

Just before 3:30 a.m. on May 22, 2016, Shreveport Police patrol officers were dispatched to Sam's Town Casino in response to a report of a theft that had just occurred. Information gathered during the transmission of the call suggested the caller was witnessing his vehicle being burglarized while it was parked at the casino. The owner of the vehicle reported observing the suspect stealing and loading items into the suspect's truck. Prior to the arrival of patrol officers, and after observing the victim, the alleged vehicle burglar sped away from the scene after making off with multiple items from the victims vehicle.

The victim reportedly followed the fleeing suspect while alerting responding authorities of the suspect's vehicle description and the direction in which the suspect was traveling. As the incident progressed, the suspect continued to drive away, traveling southbound onto Interstate 49 from Interstate 20 at a high rate of speed. The suspect reportedly pointed a gun stolen from the victim's car, at the victim as he drove away. It is believed the driver of the suspect vehicle attempted to negotiate an exit from the interstate at Hollywood Avenue and lost control of his vehicle, which crashed and burst into flames. The driver of the vehicle, 21 year old Christian Smith of Shreveport, managed to exit the vehicle following the crash; however, a female passenger died amid the wreckage. Authorities are not releasing the name of the woman until proper notification of next of kin can be made. Smith, who is expected to survive, was taken to University Health where he underwent surgery for his injuries. Smith now faces a charged of Aggravated Burglary, with additional charges to follow as the investigation into the crash continues.

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