



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

May 7, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arrests Made In Dossett Stabbing

Sheriff's investigators arrested two persons today in the stabbing death of James "Sonny" Brooks of the Dossett Community. Brooks' stepson, **Charles Edward Mason**, 41, of 111 Dossett Lane, Clinton, was arrested after Grand Jury indictments for Voluntary Manslaughter and Aggravated Assault. Brooks' wife and Mason's mother, **Bertha Gerlene Jarrell Brooks**, 72, 111 Dossett Lane, was also arrested after indictments for two counts of Tampering with Evidence, Criminal Conspiracy To Tamper with Fabricated Evidence, Coercion of a Witness, and False Reports.

These arrests come after an in-depth investigation into a September 24, 2008, incident at the Dossett Lane home. Deputies were called to Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge upon James Brooks and Charles Mason being driven to the emergency room by family members after a domestic disturbance that resulted in each being stabbed. Both had serious, life-threatening injuries from knife wounds. Brooks and Mason were airlifted to the University of Tennessee Medical Center due to their condition. Brooks died as a result of his wounds on October 3, 2008.

Investigators with the Sheriff's Criminal Investigations Unit began the tedious process of unraveling the events that occurred. After this lengthy investigation was completed, the information was forwarded to the District Attorney's Office who presented the case to an Anderson County Grand Jury.

Charles Mason was indicted for his assault on James Brooks that resulted in his death. Bertha Brooks was indicted for her role in attempting to cover up the crime committed by her son. Each is being held in the Anderson County Detention Facility on \$50,000.00 bond.



Charles Edward Mason
W/M 07/09/1967 (41)
111 Dossett Ln.
Clinton, TN

**Voluntary Manslaughter
Aggravated Assault**

Bond = \$50,000.00



Bertha Gerlene Jarrell Brooks
W/F 01/07/1937 (72)
111 Dossett Ln.
Clinton, TN

**Tampering with Evidence (2 counts)
Criminal Conspiracy
Coercion of a Witness
False Reports**

Bond = \$50,000.00

As this is a pending criminal case no additional details can be released at this time.

**Contact: Chief Deputy Mark Lucas
865-463-6885**