



June 1, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HOMICIDE ARREST

Today, Baton Rouge Police Detectives with the assistance of the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force arrested GERALD SMITH, 31 in connection with the death of CATHY WATSON, 41 of 8185 Bayou Fountain Avenue.

Investigators believe that on the night of May 28, 2022, SMITH transported WATSON to a local hospital after she suffered from an apparent gunshot wound. WATSON did not survive her injuries. SMITH initially told investigators that WATSON was handling a gun when it went off. After the examination by the East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner's Office, Watson's death was determined to be a homicide. Upon further investigation, investigators learned that earlier in night on May 28, 2022 the couple had a verbal altercation that turned physical at a local laundry mat on Greenwell Street.

SMITH will be booked in the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison on charges of Second Degree Murder, Illegal Use of Weapons or Dangerous Instrumentalities and Domestic Abuse Battery.

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