



# **KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION*

*301 VIRGINIA STREET EAST*

*CHARLESTON, WV. 25301*

*304-357-0169*

**Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford**

**Chief Deputy Joseph H. Crawford**

## **NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**April 8, 2024.**

**Contact:** Sergeant Joshua L. Lester

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Phone: 304.357.0732 office

681.910.3649 cell

## **Double Murder Suspect from Pennsylvania Located in Kanawha County**

**Charleston, WV-** On Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Metro 911 received information just after 6:00 a.m., that a murder suspect from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania was possibly traveling towards Kanawha County on Interstate 79.

Dennis Rahuba, 50 years old, was wanted by Pennsylvania authorities in connection with a double homicide that occurred overnight in Allegheny County. Rahuba was reported to be traveling south towards Kanawha County in a black Acura with Pennsylvania registration.

Just before 7:00 a.m., Kanawha County Sheriff's Deputy J.A. Morris spotted the suspect vehicle on Interstate 79 at Big Chimney. Multiple deputies and surrounding law enforcement officials joined Deputy Morris as they attempted to conduct a traffic stop around the Westmoreland Exit.

The interstate was immediately shut down and the suspect vehicle was surrounded. Deputy Morris tried to lawfully order the suspect from the vehicle when he observed and heard what was believed to be a single gunshot.

Metro 911 Communicators had received warnings from Pennsylvania that Rahuba was believed to be armed with a firearm, so the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office deployed their "Bearcat" armored vehicle to the scene and closed all north and southbound lanes.

A team of Kanawha County Sheriff's Office SWAT members approached the vehicle and confirmed the suspect, Mr. Dennis Rahuba, was deceased from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.



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Charleston Police Department Crime Scene Unit is assisting by handling the crime scene processing and the Pennsylvania authorities have been made aware of this morning's events.

Chief Deputy Joe Crawford stated this morning "We commend all the hard work that went into this morning's event. Our telecommunicators at Metro 911 did an outstanding job relaying information to deputies that kept our citizens and officers safe in a very dangerous situation. We believe that we have some of the best deputies in the state, if not the entire country and Deputy Morris is a fine example of the excellent men and women here at the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office. We also would like to thank the West Virginia State Police for their swift response to the scene and all the hard work from the Charleston Police Department. The teamwork from everyone involved ultimately ended this situation as safely as possible and we are thankful that nobody was injured. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of the victims in Pennsylvania."



**Dennis Rahuba**  
**50 years old**



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