



Newnan Police Department  
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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Arrest in the Case of Blake Tyler Chappell

**NEWNAN, GA, September 12, 2025**– Blake Tyler Chappell was reported missing on October 16, 2011. In the early morning hours of October 16, Blake Chappell left his girlfriend's home, located off Mary Freeman Road in Newnan, GA. He was travelling on foot back to a friend's house within the Summergrove neighborhood. The case was investigated by the Newnan Police Department as a missing person/runaway. Blake Chappell's body was discovered on December 19, 2011 and a homicide investigation began.

Recently, the Newnan Police Department made significant progress in the case when Scotty Elliot Smith was identified as a person of interest. Smith was not previously investigated. During the investigation into this new lead, the NPD detectives corroborated facts of the case, as related to Smith. In his multiple interviews with detectives, Scotty Smith confessed to the murder of Blake Tyler Chappell. The Newnan Police Department today arrested Scotty Elliot Smith and he remains in custody at the Coweta County Jail, charged with the following felony offenses: Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Concealing the Death of Another, and Tampering with Evidence.

This arrest is the result of countless hours of dedication by the Newnan Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division, as well as the direct, professional assistance of the Coweta County DA's Investigators. We thank the community for the continued support and cooperation throughout this

lengthy process. The commitment of our partners and the community's trust has been vital in the pursuit of justice.

While an arrest has occurred, this is still an ongoing investigation. If you have additional information, please reach out to Det. Marcos Gonzalez or Lt. Chris Robinson at (770) 254-2355.

No press conferences, interviews, or additional information will be released at this time due to the active and ongoing nature of this investigation.

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