

COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 7, 2017

MURDER CHARGE FILED AGAINST WINSTON RUSSELL FOR LAST WEEKS KILLING OF HIS MOTHER

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office has filed a Criminal Complaint against Winston Max Russell (30, of Fresno) for the May 29th stabbing death of his mother Bethlyn Webster.

Fresno Fire Department personnel originally responded to the victim's home in response to a house fire last Monday. The Fresno Police Department took over the investigation after the discovery of Ms. Webster's body in the home.

Mr. Russell has been charged with one count of Murder [Penal Code § 187(a)], as well as an allegation that a knife was used in the commission of the crime [Penal Code § 12022(b)(1)].

If convicted of the charges, Mr. Russell faces a sentence of up to Life in Prison.

Mr. Russell is currently in custody at the Fresno County Jail. He is scheduled for arraignment on the Complaint in Department 20 of the Fresno County Superior Court on Thursday, June 8, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

The Media may email <u>FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us</u> or contact Administrative Assistant Geri Benavides at (559) 600-4441 with questions.

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