

CRIME

# Three are arrested in connection with body found in burning car

By Karla Ward

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UPDATED SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 6:13 AM



Jeremy Harris, left, and Christie Hanley *FCDC*



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Three people are charged in connection with the death of a man found in early September in a burning car in Lexington.

Lexington police said they arrested Jeremy Harris, 21; Christie Hanley, 32; and Justin Slone, 23, in connection with the Sept. 4 death of Joseph Trevor Dilger.

Harris is charged with murder. Harris and Hanley, who were arrested Wednesday, are charged with tampering with physical evidence and abuse of a corpse, and are also charged in connection with an unrelated robbery in an apartment on Village Drive.

According to court documents, Harris killed Dilger with a handgun, then “drove the victim and his vehicle to a remote location and burned the victim’s car and body in attempt to cover up the crime.”

Police said in court documents that Hanley “purchased gasoline for the purpose of burning a body in a vehicle to cover up the crime of murder. The victim’s body was burned to the point that it was unrecognizable.”

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Slone, who was arrested Thursday, is charged with tampering with physical evidence, abuse of a corpse and second-degree arson in connection with the fire in which Dilger’s body was found.

Dilger’s body was found Sept. 4 in the burning car on Redd Road at Elkchester Road. The coroner’s office ruled the death a homicide but did not release the cause

of death.

Harris and Hanley entered not-guilty pleas in Fayette District Court on Thursday. Each is being held on \$500,000 bond. Their next scheduled court appearance is at 8:30 a.m. Sept. 22. Slone is scheduled to be arraigned in Fayette District Court at 1 p.m. Friday.

All three are being held in the Fayette County Detention Center.

Police said the investigation is ongoing.

This story was originally published September 15, 2016 7:01 AM.



Christie Hanley *FCDC*

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