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Police ID Suspect In Three Lexington Murders

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(LEXINGTON, Ky.) -- Lexington police identified a suspect Thursday in three brutal slayings that happened over a span of seven years.

Police said they obtained an arrest warrant for Robert Franklin Smallwood, 32, on charges of murder, rape, sodomy, robbery and burglary.

The victims included Doris Ann Roberts, Sonora Lynn Allen and Erica C. Butler. The latest killing was in April.

The announcement came less than a month after police said they had used DNA evidence to link the three killings. At the time, police said DNA found on the victims' bodies and at the crime scenes all pointed to the same man.

Police have said the victims lived "dangerous" and "high-risk" lifestyles.

Butler, 33, was found dead on April 4 at her home. Allen, 29, the mother of six children, was killed and then dumped in northeast Lexington on Aug. 15, 2002. Roberts, 48, was found dead in her apartment on Dec. 22, 1999, by her landlord.

Smallwood is already in a Kentucky prison serving time on other charges, police said.

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