



HINDSIGHT IS 20/20
10% OFF TATTOO REMOVAL

GET EMAIL AND MOBILE ALERTS ONLINE EDITION SUBSCRIBE TO PAPER CLASSIFIEDS

64°

Clear 5-Day Forecast / Radar

Home News Sports Obits Mugshots Health Business Opinions Outdoors Get Local Jobs Autos Real Estate

DON'T MISS: PANAMACITY.COM | EMPTY STOCKING FUND | VIEW OUR SLIDESHOWS | FACEBOOK/TWITTER |



Home > News

Search Newsherald for stories, videos, photos, GO

ShareThis | Print Story | E-Mail Story | Font Size A A A A

Local News: Accused killer called unstable

July 14, 2008 01:23:03 PM

Florida Freedom Newspapers NICEVILLE - A former police officer charged with fatally shooting his former wife outside a day-care center had mental problems, police and friends said. He had falsely reported the victim was driving drunk two days before the killing, according to court records. Ronald Barnicoat, 43, who left the Fort Walton Beach Police Department in 1997 after five years, was charged with an open count of murder after Thursday's shooting. He remained jailed without bond Friday. Barnicoat is accused of killing ex-wife Laurie Barnicoat, 40, in front of several young children as she dropped off their 3-year-old daughter at a La Petite Academy. "About three years ago, Ron started getting flaky," said Donna Montoya, a neighbor and friend of the victim. "He was sleeping all day, and would be real sharp and ugly with Laurie in front of other people." The couple divorced in June. Three months prior, Laurie Barnicoat wrote a letter to a judge asking that he be ordered to stay away because she feared for her life and her two daughters, police said. Ten days before she wrote the letter, Ronald Barnicoat was taken into custody under the state's Baker Act, which lets authorities apprehend a mentally unstable person. He had waved a knife outside his psychiatrist's office and told police to "just shoot me," according to a police report. In her letter to Circuit Judge William Stone, Laurie Barnicoat wrote that her husband suffered from depression. Stone granted an injunction, but she asked to have it nullified after their divorce. He resigned from the Police Department to go into the landscaping business but worked only six weeks in the last six years, his ex-wife wrote to Stone. Friends said the victim, who managed an accounting office, was paying her ex-husband alimony. After the divorce he moved to Oregon but returned, living in a camper. On Tuesday, he went to the Niceville Police Department and sought an escort to enter the home he once shared with his former wife, but was turned down because he wasn't considered a Niceville resident, said Lt. Jason Fulgham. That night he called Okaloosa County sheriff's deputies to report that his ex-wife had been driving drunk after an office party. A friend said she did not drink any alcohol at the party. The Associated Press contributed to this article.

0 tweets
0 tweets
Recommend tweet
Email

Recommendations

- Florida was weird as only it can be in 2011
15 people recommend this.
- Gulf World rescues Christmas, a stranded dolphin
23 people recommend this.
- Bear spotting: Beaches residents seeing influx of black bears
13 people recommend this.

Facebook social plugin

Most Viewed Stories

- > No. 3: Jamie Birdwell charged, pleads no contest
- > Suspects with machetes, baseball bats invade local home
- > Local Kmart store to close
- > Democrats criticize Southerland on bonus pay
- > Police: 1 nabbed in Cove home-invasion robbery

Arbor Tree Care
50% off! Trim Service of Limbs, from Arbor Tree Care, from the power lines to your house, includes clean up for \$150

Like

Weather Live Cams Military News Directory

Fair - Winds South at 4.6 MPH (4 KT)
Last Update: 2011-12-30 15:20:02

Click Here for More Weather

Sponsored by Freedom-Florida.com

POPULAR



Work at Home Jobs (EXPOSED)
Shocking Video: How you can make up to \$604/day from your home computer.



51 Year Old Mom Looks 27
North Hollywood Mom Publishes Free Facelift Secret That has Angered Doctors.



The E-Cigarette EXPOSED*
Do not try until you read this shocking new story. See The Results...



ADVERTISEMENT

National top videos



- >> U.S. news
- >> Entertainment
- >> Business
- >> Lifestyle
- >> Sports
- >> Health

Things to do in Panama City

Events Movies Venues Dining

Featured Events

See archived 'News' stories >>

Ads by Google