

Murder Charge Filed in Hickory Motel Death

Written by Steve Frank
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Late Friday morning, Hickory Police responded to the a motel there and found a woman dead under a bed in one of the rooms. Police arrived at the Motel 6 at 1179 13th Ave DR SE Hickory, reporting that a deceased female who was found in one of the rooms. The female was later identified as Loretta Joyce Chadwick, 48 years of age of Hickory. After identifying and searching for the last couple who stayed in the room who had just checked out, it was determined they had no connection to the woman's death, and were released. Then Saturday, the suspect in the case was identified as Ricky Allen Payne, 40, of Hickory. Payne has been charged with first degree murder, resist obstruct and delay an officer and possession of drug paraphernalia. Payne was placed under no bond in the Catawba County Jail. Just what occurred to cause the death of Chadwick has not been released, but it appeared she had been dead for at least several days and was under a bed that had to be lifted up to place her underneath.