



Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff-Coroner Leo C. Dutton

Undersheriff Jason T. Grimmis

08-19-2020 Deputies arrested Leon Michael Ford in Oak Harbor Washington for Deliberate Homicide (45-5-102 (1) (a) a Felony and Tampering with evidence, 45-7-207(1) (a) a felony for the death of John Michael Crites. He was taken into custody at 9:58 Pacific Time.

Count 1

On or about June 26, 2011, in Lewis and Clark County, state of Montana, Leon Michael Ford committed the offense of DELIBERATE HOMICIDE, a felony, in that the Leon Michael Ford purposely or knowingly caused the death of John Michael Crites, a human being, in violation of Montana Code Annotated 45-5-201(1)(a).

Count 2

Between on or about June 26, 2011 and on or about September 25, 2012, in Lewis and Clark County, state of Montana, Leon Michael Ford committed the offense of TAMPERING WITH OR FABRICATING PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, a felony, in that Leon Michael Ford believing that an official proceeding or investigation was pending or about to be instituted, altered, destroyed, concealed or removed any thing, to wit: the body of John Michael Crites, with the purpose to impair its verity or availability in the proceedings or investigation, in violation of Montana Code Annotated 45-7-207(1)(a).

Leon Ford will be arraigned in Oak Harbor tomorrow.

The Affidavit of probable cause is available from Justice of the Peace Court, Judge Swingley 406-447-8202.

Leo C. Dutton, Sheriff/Coroner
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