KBI arrests Salina man for first degree murder and kidnapping

SALINA — The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Saline County Sheriff’s Office, and the Salina Police Department have made an arrest related to the discovery of a body near the Smoky Hill River Bridge on Tuesday.

Tuesday, June 6, a body was discovered by passersby one mile east of Salina, near the Smoky Hill River Bridge in Saline County. The victim has been identified as 29-year-old Brandon Shelby of Salina.

Preliminary information suggests that Shelby suffered blunt force trauma to the head and other severe injuries. An autopsy will take place today to determine an official cause of death.

Agents and local law enforcement worked through the night and made an arrest at approximately 3 a.m. Wednesday. Charles Rodgers, age 30, of Salina, an acquaintance of Shelby, was arrested and booked into the Saline County Jail for first degree murder and kidnapping. The alleged crimes are suspected to have occurred in both the city of Salina and in Saline County.

This investigation is ongoing. The Saline County Attorney’s Office is expected to prosecute the case.

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