

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff

**PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Sheriff's Office apprehends Pennsylvania Homicide suspect.**

(February 1<sup>st</sup> 2017)

Sheriff Dave Phalen reports that this morning, February 1st, 2017 at approximately 08:00AM the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call from a subject requesting assistance at 950 Baltimore-Somerset Rd. in Walnut Township.

Sheriff's Office dispatchers were advised by the 911 caller that he and his girlfriend had witnessed a shooting in Pennsylvania and that the alleged shooter had abducted them. Dispatchers were further advised that the alleged shooter ( John Robert Sethman III, 29 years old ) threatened to kill the couple unless they drove him to Florida.

At approximately the same time as the 911 call, Sheriff's Sergeant Jesse Hendershot was flagged down on the lot by the 911 caller and informed of what the caller had just relayed to dispatchers. Sgt. Hendershot confirmed the information with Dispatchers and confronted John Robert Sethman III. After a short struggle, Sergeant Hendershot and arriving back up units placed Sethman III into custody.

Sheriff Phalen stated that dispatchers and detectives were then able to confirm with the Allegheny County Police Department in Pennsylvania that they were indeed investigating a homicide that took place in Allegheny County at approximately 3:00AM in which a 29 year old McKeesport, Pa. man was shot and killed. Allegheny County Police advised that witnesses reported that John Robert Sethman III was the shooter.

Both witnesses and Sethman III were taken to the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office to await Allegheny County Police authorities. At 3:00PM Sethman III appeared in front of Judge Richard Behrens and waived extradition back to Pennsylvania. Neither witness, suspect nor victims have known ties to Fairfield County.

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