



## Schools may have to restrict bathroom access by gender

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# Independent Mail

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Anderson County Sheriff Chaplain, middle, with investigators, chaplain, SLED, State Highway Patrol and ambulance responded to an officer involved shooting on entrance ramp of I-85 at exit 11 in Townville on April 20.

KEN RUINARD/USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

# Shootout on I-85

## Authorities identify man killed during incident with deputy

Terry Benjamin II

Greenville News | USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

The man who was fatally shot by a deputy during a traffic stop on I-85 in Anderson County on April 20 has been identified.

Authorities say the man was shot after he opened fire and wounded a deputy.

Austin Derrell Robertson, 32, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, was the man shot and killed by an Anderson County deputy on April 20, according to Anderson County Coroner Public Information Officer Alyssa Whitfield. Deputies said Robertson shot a deputy during the incident.

The deputy underwent surgery and is in stable condition, according to Anderson County Public Information Officer Shale Remien.

Robertson was pulled over by a deputy at Exit 11 on Interstate 85, according to a report released by Whitfield. During the stop, the deputy spoke with Robertson and requested another unit to assist, which arrived shortly thereafter. During the stop,

law enforcement said Robertson retrieved a gun from his vehicle and shot one of the deputies.

Remien said the deputy pulled over Robertson because of a moving traffic violation, due to his vehicle driving too close to other vehicles.

During a press conference, Anderson County Sheriff Chad McBride said the deputy pulled the driver over and then called for backup "due to the driver's behavior." McBride said a confrontation ensued and led to the person of interest firing a shot.

The coroner's office received a call at 4 p.m. on April 20 about a shooting on the interstate that left one person dead and another injured. The deputy was shot in the chest with life-threatening injuries.

"The suspect's dead, which that's a good thing. He won't be trying to hurt officers anymore, that's for sure," McBride said during the press conference.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, the Anderson County Coroner's Office, and the Anderson County Sheriff's Office are investigating the shooting.

The deputy's name has not been released. An update on the officer's condition has not been released.

This is the second time in the past couple of weeks that a law enforcement officer was shot in the Upstate and the third in South Carolina. On April 14, a Greenville police officer suffered a gunshot wound after a scuffle with Xavier Washington, 20, on North Main Street in downtown Greenville.

## Convicted killer to face 2nd parole hearing

Terry Benjamin II

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

A woman convicted of killing her two young sons by drowning them in a lake more than 30 years ago will try to regain her freedom once again.

Susan Smith is scheduled to appear before a parole board on Nov. 19, 2026. This will be her second attempt at parole.

On Nov. 20, 2024, the board denied Smith, 54, parole for her crime of pushing a car with her two toddler sons strapped inside into John D. Long Lake in Union County in October 1994.

The hearing was Smith's first since her conviction 30 years ago.

In 1995, Smith was convicted of two

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## Activist goes on hunger strike for kids held by ICE agency

Bella Carpentier

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK - SOUTH CAROLINA

Local activists are using a hunger strike outside of the Greenville City Hall to raise awareness for the hundreds of children detained by immigration officers since President Donald Trump's inauguration.

Upstate activist Brandy Hancock kicked off a five-day hunger strike outside of the Greenville City Hall early on Monday, April 20. She plans to be outside of Greenville City Hall through 8 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

Hancock said she and two other activists, Michelle Shara and Susie Smith, felt compelled to organize the hunger strike to raise awareness for the hundreds of children in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers.

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Volume 127 | No. 144  
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