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Ferndale man sought in woman's shooting death

BY BILL LAITNER
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Police said today they are seeking a Ferndale man considered armed and dangerous who allegedly shot to death 38-year-old Fredericka Dixon at her Royal Oak Township duplex Thursday night.

"The victim and the suspect had previously lived together in Royal Oak Township, but not for the last three years," Oakland County Undersheriff Mike McCabe said.

"The suspect has previously threatened the victim with harm in the past few weeks. The victim has three children, with the oldest being 18 years of age," McCabe said today.


"He had forced entry to the home," he said. The Oakland County Sheriff's Office, which patrols Royal Oak Township, identified the suspect as Darius Martice McCrary, 34, and said he left the scene of the alleged crime in a red 2000 Pontiac Grand Prix with the license plate of CBY-0827. "His criminal history shows two convictions for property crimes," McCabe said in an e-mailed media report.

Police responded to a 911 call around 8:30 p.m. to an address on Westview Avenue at Cloverdale, where they found Dixon with several gunshot wounds from a handgun, he said. The responding deputies performed CPR until emergency medical technicians arrived. Dixon was pronounced dead at the scene, McCabe said. Her death was ruled a homicide this morning by the Oakland County Medical Examiner. Assisting Oakland County deputies and the county's forensic lab technicians at the scene were officers from Berkley, Ferndale, Oak Park and the Michigan State Police. All departments have issued search orders for the suspect, who apparently has abandoned his Ferndale apartment, according to the media release. In an effort to elicit citizens' tips on McCrary's whereabouts, the Oakland County Sheriff's

Office today released a police photo of the suspect from a 2005 arrest. Anyone with a tip for police can make an anonymous call at any time either to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP (800-773-2587) or to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office at 248-858-4911.

Contact **BILL LAITNER**: 586-826-7264 or blaitner@freepress.com.

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