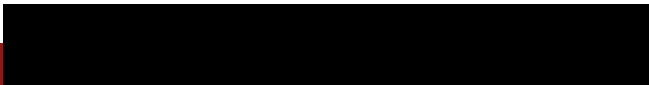


Criminal Investigation Division

OFFICIAL CASE FILE
"THE SILVERPINE INCIDENT"

Case Number:	25-47389
Classification:	Homicide (Multiple Victims) — Cult-Related / Ritualistic
Status:	Active — Pending Trial
Jurisdiction:	Riverside Police Department
Location of Offense:	Silverpine Woods, near Fire Watch Station 7
Date of Offense:	07/16/2026
Date Reported:	07/16/2026
Reporting Officer:	Case compiled by RPD Criminal Investigation Division
Number of Victims:	4 (3 deceased, 1 survivor)
Number of Offenders Charged:	2 (Additional subjects unidentified / at large)

This file contains sensitive investigative material related to an active homicide prosecution. Distribution is restricted to authorized personnel of the RPD and assigned prosecutorial staff.



1. CASE SUMMARY

Case No.:	25-47389
Offense Classification:	Homicide x3, Attempted Homicide, Criminal Conspiracy, Unlawful Assembly
Date/Time of Offense:	On or about 07/16/2026, approximately 0200 hrs
Location:	Remote clearing, Silverpine Woods, vicinity of Fire Watch Station 7
Reporting Party:	Ethan Walker, 20 (surviving witness/victim)
Responding Agency:	[REDACTED] patrol and SWAT units

On 07/16, a report was received from a Silverpine fire watch employee that a twenty-year-old male had arrived at the watch station in visible distress, stating that members of a cult had attacked and killed his three companions during an overnight camping trip. The individual was later identified as Ethan Walker, the sole survivor of the incident. Riverside Police Department patrol units were dispatched to the fire watch station and, with Walker's assistance, located the campsite where the attack occurred.

At the scene, officers recovered the bodies of three victims — Tyler Bennette, Madison Brooks, and Emily Carter — each showing evidence of dismemberment. Two victims were attacked inside their tents; the third was located at a separate site deeper within the woods. A SWAT team was subsequently deployed into the surrounding forest and located a concealed ritual site associated with an organized group operating under the name "Keepers of Thyron." Several individuals were apprehended at the scene; others fled into the woods and, at the time of this filing, remain unidentified and at large.

Two subjects were taken into custody at the scene and later identified as Brittany Cooper, 38, and Lauren Cooper, 34 — sisters affiliated with the Cooper family of Riverton Village. During questioning, both subjects admitted responsibility for the killing of three of the four campers, stating that the act was carried out in accordance with an internal ritual of their organization, on the stated basis that the victims had "polluted the pure territory" of land claimed by the group. Full details of the ritual referenced by the subjects have not been disclosed in this record.



2. VICTIM ROSTER

Name	Age	Sex	Status	Notes
Tyler Bennette	20	Male	Deceased	College student; camping party member
Madison Brooks	19	Female	Deceased	College student; camping party member
Emily Carter	20	Female	Deceased	College student; camping party member
Ethan Walker	20	Male	Survivor	College student; sole survivor and reporting witness

3. OFFENDER ROSTER

Name	Age	Sex	Status	Notes
Brittany Cooper	38	Female	In Custody	Weapon: Axe; identified as active cult leadership
Lauren Cooper	34	Female	In Custody	Weapon: Machete; sister of co-defendant

Both offenders are identified as sisters of the Cooper family, residing in Riverton Village. Additional cult members were apprehended during the SWAT operation but have not been publicly identified in this record. The individual identified as the group's leader was also taken into custody but did not survive; the circumstances of that death were not specified by forensic investigators in the official record.

4. ORGANIZATION OF INTEREST

Name:	"Keepers of Thyron" (also referenced as the Thyron cult)
Base of Operations:	Concealed encampment, Silverpine Woods
Structure:	Group centered on worship of a statue regarded by members as a living deity, communicating through a designated leader/"master"
Status of Statue:	Recovered during raid; relocated to an undisclosed secure location
Outstanding Members:	Multiple; fled into forest during SWAT confrontation, not yet apprehended



5. FULL NARRATIVE ACCOUNT

The following narrative is compiled from the statement of surviving witness Ethan Walker and corroborating physical evidence gathered at the scene.

5.1 — Planning and Arrival (07/13 – 07/14)

On 07/13, four college students — Ethan Walker, Tyler Bennette, Madison Brooks, and Emily Carter — arranged an overnight camping trip to Silverpine Woods, an area known for dense tree cover and heavy undergrowth. Unauthorized camping in Silverpine is prohibited due to active monitoring by a fire watch station, with patrols tasked with removing trespassers. Walker stated he was not especially close with the other three members of the group but agreed to join the trip.

On 07/14, the group arrived by RV at the edge of the forest, parking at a distance to avoid drawing attention, and carried their equipment in on foot. To avoid detection, the group did not build an open campfire, instead using a small propane gas tank for cooking and carrying flashlights for use after dark. Walker reported experiencing an unexplained sense of unease while moving deeper into the woods, which he attributed at the time to ordinary nervousness about trespassing.

The group reached an isolated clearing and established camp between approximately 1900 and 2000 hrs, pitching four individual tents. The group remained awake socializing until approximately 0000–0100 hrs before retiring. The site was reported as fully dark and silent in the absence of a campfire or active lighting.

5.2 — First Night Disturbance (07/14 – 07/15, approx. 0400 hrs)

Walker reported difficulty sleeping due to unfamiliarity with the location. At approximately 0400 hrs, while in a half-asleep state, he heard footsteps consistent with at least two individuals outside his tent, accompanied by low, indistinct whispering and a faint glow through the tent fabric consistent with handheld fire sticks or torches. The individuals approached the campsite, paused, and then withdrew without making contact. Walker did not immediately alert the rest of the group.

5.3 — Morning Discovery and Search (07/15)

At approximately 0900 hrs on 07/15, Walker raised the previous night's disturbance with the group. Carter indicated she may have heard something but was not certain; Bennette and Brooks reported hearing nothing. At approximately 1100 hrs, still unsettled and reasoning that fire watch staff would likely have already confronted the group directly, Walker conducted an independent search of the surrounding area. During this search he located a set of boot prints circling the perimeter of the camp and unfamiliar carved symbols hanging from nearby tree branches.

Walker brought the remaining group members to view the boot prints and symbols. The group offered an alternative, non-threatening explanation — that a prior camper had passed through the area — and the matter was not escalated further at that time. Walker stated he remained uneasy for the remainder of the day despite the group's reassurances.

5.4 — Discovery of the Ritual Site (07/16, approx. 0200 hrs)

Unable to sleep, Walker left his tent at approximately 0200 hrs on 07/16, intending to step away from camp and continue searching the area. While moving through the woods he located additional carved symbols matching those found earlier, and observed an artificially cleared circular area approximately one hundred meters from the campsite.

Upon approaching the clearing, Walker observed a maintained circular area stripped of vegetation, containing dried bloodstains, carved symbols cut into the ground and surrounding logs, and a burned-out fire pit containing the partially dismembered remains of a human body in a state consistent with a recent death. Walker returned toward

the campsite at that point.

5.5 — The Attack

Before reaching the campsite, Walker heard a brief period of screaming from the direction of the tents, followed by silence. Upon arrival at the campsite, Walker discovered the body of Madison Brooks, deceased, with evidence of dismemberment. He additionally observed the tents showing signs of significant blood loss and two individuals dressed in black, wearing masks marked with the same symbol observed earlier in the woods.

One subject, later identified as Brittany Cooper, was observed moving the body of Emily Carter and was armed with an axe. The second subject, later identified as Lauren Cooper, was armed with a machete and was observed searching the campsite. Upon being noticed by both subjects, Walker fled into the surrounding woods on foot, pursued by both individuals.

Walker was able to evade the pursuing subjects and conceal himself beneath a fallen log. While concealed, he overheard fragments of conversation between the two subjects, who expressed confusion regarding an unaccounted-for fourth member of the camping party and expressed intent to locate him. The subjects' search subsequently moved away from Walker's position, at which point he proceeded on foot to the Silverpine fire watch station.

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5.6 — Report to Authorities and Police Response

Walker arrived at the fire watch station in a visibly distressed state and reported that his companions had been killed. The fire watch employee on duty immediately contacted the Riverside Police Department. Patrol units were dispatched and took an initial statement from Walker, which was used to locate the campsite.

A SWAT team was deployed into the forest to locate the assailants. Both subjects were located and subdued using less-lethal tasers after brief resistance. Continuing the search, SWAT units located a substantially larger concealed encampment identified as the operational base of an established organization. During the resulting confrontation, several individuals fled into the forest and were not apprehended; others, including an individual identified as the group's leader, were taken into custody.

The individual identified as the group's leader did not survive in custody. The circumstances of that death were not specified by forensic investigators in the official record available to this file. Additional apprehended members of the organization have not been publicly identified.

5.7 — Subject Statements

Brittany Cooper and Lauren Cooper were transported for formal interrogation. Both subjects provided statements described in investigator notes as cold and unapologetic, asserting that the victims had defiled land considered sacred by the organization and that they were required to answer for this transgression with their lives. The remainder of the interrogation record has been redacted and is not included in this file.



6. SCENE AND EVIDENCE SUMMARY

Item No.	Location	Description
E-01	Primary campsite, Silverpine Woods	Blood evidence, dismembered remains of two victims, disturbed tents
E-02	Secondary site, ~100m from camp	Body of third victim (recovered separately)
E-03	Circular ritual clearing	Carved ground symbols, dried bloodstains, burned fire pit with partial human remains
E-04	Perimeter of campsite	Boot prints, hanging carved wooden symbols
E-05	Concealed cult encampment	Larger operational base; statue recovered and relocated
E-06	Weapons recovered	Axe (B. Cooper); Machete (L. Cooper)

The remains recovered from the ritual clearing (E-03) were in a state of partial decomposition consistent with a death predating the incident under investigation, and are treated as a separate matter pending identification.

7. INVESTIGATIVE STATUS

Charges Filed:	Homicide (x3), Attempted Homicide, Criminal Conspiracy, Unlawful Assembly
Defendants:	Brittany Cooper (38), Lauren Cooper (34)
Custody Status:	Both defendants held pending trial
Outstanding Subjects:	Unidentified cult members remain at large
Trial Status:	Proceedings ongoing; disposition to be released by the [REDACTED] upon conclusion



8. RECORD AUTHORIZATION

This case file has been compiled and reviewed for internal record-keeping purposes by the Riverside Police Department Criminal Investigation Division. Redacted portions of subject interrogation records and the identities of uncharged cult members have been withheld from this version of the file in accordance with department policy on active prosecutions.

Role	Name	Signature	Date
Lead Investigator	[REDACTED]		
Case Reviewing Officer			
Records Division			

9. DISTRIBUTION

Copies of this record are restricted to: Riverside Police Department Criminal Investigation Division; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney; [REDACTED] This document is not to be duplicated or released outside of authorized channels.



10. CLOSING SUMMARY

As of the date of this filing, the trial of defendants Brittany Cooper and Lauren Cooper remains in process. The [REDACTED] will issue further notification upon conclusion of proceedings. This file will be updated to reflect the final disposition of the case, including sentencing outcomes and the status of any additional individuals apprehended in connection with the Silverpine encampment.

END OF CASE FILE — RPD CASE #25-47389

This record remains confidential pending final case disposition.

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