

Murder suspect free on bond

By STANLEY DUNLAP May 13, 2009

A Decatur County woman charged with first-degree murder in the shooting of her father was released from jail Monday on \$200,000 bond.

Misty Dawn Evans, 25, had been held without bond since her arrest in the March 28 killing, pending a mental evaluation.

Evans' lawyer, David Raybin of Nashville, said Tuesday that the evaluation found Evans competent to stand trial.

Her preliminary hearing was scheduled for May 18 but has been rescheduled for June 29 in Decatur County General Sessions Court.

"With the person in custody, then it's a requirement to have a quick hearing, but if they're released on bond, the time can be expanded," Raybin said.

Evans had been appointed a public defender until she retained Raybin and Camden attorney Terry Leonard as her counsel about two weeks ago.

"Our initial efforts were devoted to the bond situation and securing her release," Raybin said. "Now that we're done, we're working on the case for the preliminary hearing."

He declined to discuss the details of the case.

Evans and District Attorney General Hansel McCadams could not be reached for comment.

Authorities arrested Misty Evans after a weeklong investigation of the shooting of her father, William Neely Evans, 48. Investigators have said Neely Evans was killed between 5 and 5:40 p.m. March 28 at his home in the 1700 block of Bear Creek Road near Parsons.

He was chopping wood at an old homestead about 300 yards from his house at the time, investigators have said.

An affidavit of complaint said Neely Evans was shot twice with a medium-caliber firearm. The affidavit also states that Misty Evans told at least two people she wanted him dead.

After searching the home of his wife, Jenita Evans, and Misty Evans, authorities found a gun they believe to be the murder weapon.



Evans