



# **HIGHLANDS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Sheriff Paul Blackman**

400 S. Eucalyptus St., Sebring FL 33870  
863-402-7200 | [www.highlandssheriff.org](http://www.highlandssheriff.org)



Scott Dressel, Public Information Officer  
863-402-7841 | [rdressel@highlandssheriff.org](mailto:rdressel@highlandssheriff.org)

## **PRESS RELEASE: May 17, 2017**

### **Man faces murder charge after admitting to stabbing girlfriend**

SEBRING -- A Sebring man is facing first-degree murder charges after he admitted to stabbing his live-in girlfriend to death late Tuesday, May 16.

Richard Conway Strickland, 51, was covered "almost head to toe" in blood and sitting on a chair outside his mobile home at 5127 Barnum St. in Sebring when the first deputy arrived just before 10:30 p.m. Inside the home, deputies found the body of 51-year-old Shirley Anne Temple on the kitchen floor. She had been stabbed multiple times with several different knives.

While waiting for detectives and crime scene units to process the scene, Strickland voluntarily made several statements admitting guilt, saying he had gotten in an argument with Temple in the living room and "lost it" and began stabbing her.

Strickland said when Temple stopped moving, he called family members and asked them to come to the scene so he could tell them goodbye. It was one of the family members who called 911.

Strickland, who had several cuts on his hands, was taken to the hospital for treatment before being transported to the Highlands County Jail.

**Note: Mug shot is from 2010, since the booking process is not complete.**

*Note: All arrests do not lead to convictions. Everyone is considered innocent until proven guilty in court.*



