

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

NAME: News Editors/ News Directors

FROM: The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

DATE: August 4, 2005

TIME: 12:40 P.M.

Total number of pages 2, including this page.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES, PLEASE CALL BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Phone: 720.874.4165

MEDIA RELEASE

SUSPECT IN CUSTODY REGARDING SUSPICIOUS DEATH INVESTIGATION

On Monday August 1, 2005 at about 1:24 P.M., the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office was called to 6441 South Eudora Way to conduct a welfare check on the residents, who had not been seen for nearly two days. Responding deputies discovered two deceased females inside the South Eudora Way home. The deceased females have been identified as:

**Denise Dawn Effland, Age 57
and
Brenna Odell Effland, Age 24**

**6441 South Eudora Way
Centennial, Colorado**

Deputies also observed an adult male moving through the home. The male is identified as:

**Phillip Dale Effland, DOB 07/26/48 – Age 57
6441 South Eudora Way
Centennial, Colorado
(Photograph To Be Released When Available)**

Effland moved into a bedroom, where it was believed that he barricaded himself. During this time, additional deputies evacuated several homes in the neighborhood for the safety of area residents. After twenty minutes of discussions, deputies were able to talk Mr. Effland into surrendering without further incident. Although Mr. Effland had no visible signs of external physical injury, he was unresponsive to questions. Mr. Effland was transported to a local hospital for a medical evaluation and care.

(more)

A search warrant of the South Eudora Way home, authorized by the Arapahoe County District Court, was executed by Sheriff's Office Investigators and Crime Lab. Although suicide notes were located at the South Eudora Way residence, the matter continued to be investigated as a homicide, to ensure the assignment of adequate resources for a complete and thorough investigation. On Tuesday August 2, 2005 the Arapahoe County Coroner's Office conducted autopsies on each of the deceased females; results of the Coroner's Office findings are pending further evaluation.

On Wednesday August 3, 2005, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Investigators were able to discuss the incident with Mr. Effland, for the first time since his hospitalization. Based upon statements made to investigators, forensic evidence and the preliminary autopsy results, Sheriff's Office Investigators determined that sufficient probable cause existed to believe that Mr. Effland was responsible for the death of his wife, Denise Dawn Effland.

The investigation by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office and the Arapahoe County Coroner's Office has determined that on Saturday July 30, 2005, Phillip Effland, Denise Effland and Brenna Effland decided to willingly take their own lives by ingesting an undetermined amount of prescription medications. In the early morning hours of Sunday July 31, 2005, Mr. Effland awakened from the self-induced drug overdose and realized that he and his wife had survived the intentional drug overdose. Upon realizing that the suicide attempt had failed, Mr. Effland allegedly shot Mrs. Effland, prior to ingesting additional prescription drugs, in an effort to complete the original suicide attempts. Mr. Effland also determined that the suicide attempt had apparently resulted in the death of his daughter, Brenna Effland.

Mr. Phillip Effland was taken into custody on Wednesday August 3, 2005 at about 9:45 P.M. Mr. Effland will be held, without bond, at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Detentions Facility, pending the filing of formal criminal charges with the Office Of The District Attorney. Mr. Effland will be charged with violations of:

C.R.S. 18-3-104 - Manslaughter, a Class 4 Felony

A Class 4 Felony is punishable, upon conviction, by incarceration at the Department of Corrections for two (2) years to six (6) years.

For further information, contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720.874.4165.

(E N D)