

Sutter Homicide

Sunday, August 1, 2010, 3:00 P.M.

For Immediate Release:

On July, 30, 2010, at approximately 12:43 a.m., Sutter County Sheriff's deputies and firefighters responded to reports of either possible shots fired, broken glass or fireworks exploding at a residence in the 2200 block of Mulberry Street in Sutter. Sheriff's Deputies and Sutter Fire Department arrived on scene, at which point the garage was fully engulfed and flames had begun spreading to the rest of the home.

After the fire was extinguished, firefighters discovered two bodies inside the residence. Sutter County Detectives responded and upon initial investigation deemed the fire and the two deaths as suspicious and designated the house a crime scene. The detectives obtained a search warrant for the house and began their investigation and quickly determined that the two deaths inside the house, a male and a female, were victims of a homicide.

The victims were tentatively identified as Jack and Susan Martin, but positive identification was not possible. California Department of Justice Criminalists responded and conducted the forensic examination of the crime scene while Sutter County Detectives began the process of interviewing witnesses and family members. Autopsies were performed on the two bodies and the male was positively identified as Jack Martin but the female could not be positively identified.

A person of interest, Joseph Hayden Simlick, 21 years old, out of Loomis, was quickly identified and was later arrested and booked into Sutter County Jail on charges of Burglary and False Imprisonment.

Sutter County Detectives are continuing their investigation and anyone with information regarding the circumstances of this case are urged to call Sutter County Sheriff's Detectives at (530) 822-7307 or "Leave a Tip" on the Sheriff's website at www.suttersheriff.org.

Contact and Telephone Number:

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