

Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

NEWS RELEASE

SUSPICIOUS DEATH RULED HOMICIDE

CASE # 200908181

Date: December 21, 2009

**Prepared By: Lt. Steve Knight
707-840-9132**

On 12-13-2009, approximately 1005 hours the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office was notified of a deceased male located on the Mad River high water mark, near the 4500 block of Boyd Road, Arcata. Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to the scene and determined the death was suspicious. Sheriff's Office Detectives were notified and responded to the scene to take over the investigation. During the investigation it was determined that the deceased was David Earl Sanford, 47 years of age, of Fieldbrook.

A Forensic Pathologist from Sacramento was called in to assist with the investigation. An autopsy was held at the Humboldt Coroners Office on Friday afternoon, 12-18-2009. Sheriff's Office Detectives and Coroner Investigators were present. The Forensic Pathologist ruled the death of David Earl Sanford is a homicide.

Due to the nature of the investigation, Sheriff's Office Detectives are withholding the manner in which Sanford was killed. The investigation is ongoing, and additional information will be released at a later time as it becomes available.

The Sheriff's Office is requesting anyone with information about this case to please contact lead Detective Troy Garey at 707-268-3643 or Sergeant Wayne Hanson at 707-268-3639.

GARY PHILP, SHERIFF

