



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: 07-28-2015

From: Lt. Wayne Hanson
(707) 268-3641

Subject: Homicide

Case: 201503461

UPDATE

On Saturday, July 25, 2015 an autopsy was performed on Lam's body at the Humboldt County Coroner's Office by a Forensic Pathologist. The results of the autopsy were Lam's injuries were not consistent with a fall, as previously reported by witnesses. Cause of death was determined to be blunt force trauma to the head. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office is investigating Lam's death as a homicide.

On Saturday, July 18, 2015 at 12:48 p.m. a Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Deputy responded to Jerold Phelps Community Hospital in Garberville, regarding a possible male assault victim, who had arrived at the hospital by ambulance. Hospital staff told the deputy that the male victim, who had been identified as 37 year old Khanh Lam was unconscious with a severe head injury and was in critical condition. Lam was flown to an out of area hospital for treatment, because of his injuries.

Deputies and CHP Officers then responded to a possible location where Lam was injured, which was located in the 700 block of Locust Street, Garberville. Deputies spoke to witnesses who reported that Lam was involved in an argument with a female subject and attempted to remove her child from a car. At some point during the argument (4) four males subjects confronted Lam. According to the witnesses Lam took off running and the (4) male subjects, along with their dogs started to pursue Lam on foot. At some point during this incident it was reported by a witness that Lam possibly fell while he was running and received a head injury from falling to the ground. When witnesses found Lam lying on the ground unconscious they dialed 9-1-1.

On Sunday, July 19, 2015 at about 5:00 p.m. a medical doctor informed the Sheriff's Office that Lam is currently on life support and has no brain activity. Lam's family has been notified and is consulting with medical staff on their decision to take Lam off life support. Lam is from Atlanta, Georgia.

The Sheriff's Office is considering this a suspicious death investigation and is asking for the public's help if anyone witnessed this incident. They are encouraged to call the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office or Detective Jennifer Turner at 707-268-3642.

Anyone with information for the Sheriff's Office regarding this case or related criminal activity is encouraged to call the Sheriff's Office at 707-445-7251 or the Sheriff's Office Crime Tip line at 707-268-2539.

Mike Downey, Sheriff