



## **PRESS RELEASE**

From the office of:  
Sheriff James Stuart  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Andover Death Investigation**

**6/24/2020**

On June 24, 2020, at approximately 6:28 a.m., Anoka County Central Communications received a 911 call of smoke coming from a residence in the 300 block of Andover Blvd. NW in the City of Andover. Anoka County Sheriff's Office Deputies arrived on-scene and reported the house was fully involved. Andover Fire Department responded along with mutual aid from fire departments from the cities of Ham Lake, Oak Grove, Ramsey and Anoka-Champlin.

As firefighters were attempting to extinguish the fire, Anoka County Sheriff's Office Deputies encountered an adult male who was armed with a gun and barricaded in a horse trailer with sleeping quarters along side a pole building at the back of the property making active threats to the safety of deputies. Due to this individual's actions, the fire departments were pulled back and were no longer able to extinguish the fire resulting in the home burning down to the foundation. For the safety of fire personnel and neighbors, leaving was not an option for law enforcement. Deputies attempted to communicate with the individual in the trailer with no success. The Anoka County Sheriff's Office SWAT team was brought in to take over the scene. Further attempts were made to negotiate with the individual were ultimately unsuccessful. Shortly before 10:00 a.m., a single gunshot was heard from inside the trailer and a deceased adult male was located inside.

This incident remains under investigation by the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office. The Anoka County Fire Investigation Team has also been called in to investigate the cause of the fire. This is a very tragic situation and certainly not the outcome we had hoped for. There is no ongoing threat to the public and no other individuals are being sought. No additional information will be provided at this time.

Lieutenant Andy Knotz  
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