



NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –
June 29, 2021**

Body Found in Storage Unit 5-20-2021

Adams County, Colo. (June 29, 2021):

The Adams County Sheriff's Office report the arrest of a Thornton man for the murder of a missing Commerce City woman.

On May 20th, 2021 at approximately 9:37 a.m., members of the Adams County Sheriff's Office responded to a storage unit facility in the 8700 block of Devonshire Boulevard regarding the discovery of human remains in a storage unit. Upon arrival, deputies and detectives confirmed that the body of a deceased adult was in a large trash bin inside the storage unit.

On May 21st, 2021, detectives served a search warrant, in Thornton, at the residence of the renter of the storage unit. A search of the residence revealed an additional crime scene and members of the ACSO Crime Scene and Laboratory Team collected multiple items of additional evidence. With the assistance of the Adams County Coroner, it was determined that the female victim had been killed by gunfire. Detectives developed a primary suspect, Gregory A. Thomas, 36, a resident of Thornton. Detectives determined that Thomas fled to the state of Washington after the discovery of the deceased victim.

On June 6th, 2021, members of the ACSO, ATF and Lynden (WA) Police Department located Thomas in a Lynden, Washington RV park. Thomas was arrested for an outstanding Colorado Parole Violation arrest warrant and was subsequently extradited to Colorado. An arrest warrant was obtained for Thomas for the homicide and on June 28th, 2021, the defendant was arrested at the Adams County Detention Facility while held on the Parole Violation warrant. Thomas was arrested on the following charges:

Gregory A. Thomas of Thornton

- Murder 1st degree, a class 1 felony
- Tampering with a Deceased Human Body, a class 3 felony

The case is under review for a possible filing of charges by the 17th Judicial District Attorney's Office in Adams County.

Detectives were assisted in the investigation by the ATF REGIONAL ANTI-VIOLENCE ENFORCEMENT NETWORK (R.A.V.E.N.), Thornton Police Department, Commerce City Police Department, Bellingham (WA) Police Department, Lynden (WA) Police Department and the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office (WA). The investigation is ongoing and further arrests and charges are possible. The defendant is held in the Adams County Detention Facility pending further court proceedings.

The Adams County Sheriff's Office or North Metro Drug Task Force has determined that there is probable cause to make an arrest. The defendant(s) are presumed innocent until convicted in court. The 17th Judicial District (District Attorney) may decline to prosecute or refuse to file charges in this proceeding. Consequently, charges are often reduced, dropped or dismissed.

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For more Information, please contact:

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