



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For immediate release:
KCSO news release #09-046 / 125 / 11

Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009

Suspicious death investigation update

Sheriff's Office concurs with Coroner's finding

Ref: KCSO news release #09-045, dated Aug. 16, 2009

Port Orchard, Wash. -- An autopsy was conducted Tuesday for the woman found deceased, early Sunday morning, close to an off-road vehicle trail in the vicinity of Rock Quarry Road NW, in Central Kitsap.

Following the examination by the county's forensic pathologist, the Kitsap County Coroner determined that the cause of death was from a self-inflicted gunshot wound with the manner of death indicated as being a suicide.

The woman was identified as Charlene Sulkosky, age 49, from Central Kitsap.

Although this investigation remains open, Kitsap County Sheriff's detectives concur with the coroner's opinion as to cause and manner of death. In all death inquiries sheriff's detectives conduct a detailed, wide-ranging investigation that encompasses evidence collection / processing and personal contact interviews, along with the forensic medical examination. The sheriff's office is waiting for results of toxicology reports from the Washington State Crime Lab before closing this case file.

In consideration of the emotional toll that this incident has caused for the family and friends of Charlene Sulkosky, further details regarding this investigation will not be released publicly.

Sheriff Steve Boyer and the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Kitsap County Health District and other agencies, is greatly concerned about suicide and its affect on society and our communities:

- **Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the United States.**
- **Washington State ranks 23rd in the nation for suicide deaths.**
- **There is one suicide attempt every 38 seconds in the U. S. with more than 832,000 attempts per year.**
- **Each suicide intimately affects six other people.**
- **Suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people.**

Resources are available to assist those who suffer from depression / suicidal thoughts, and their family members.

Local resources include:

Kitsap County Health District
Suicide Prevention Coordinator
www.kitsapcountyhealth.com
Phone: (360) 337-5250
E-mail: **smithb@health.co.kitsap.wa.us**

Kitsap Suicide Prevention Task Force
E-mail: **KitsapSPTF@comcast.net**

Life is Valuable
North Kitsap Youth Suicide Awareness Task Force
E-mail: **nk_liv@comcast.net**

Kitsap Mental Health Services
www.kitsapmentalhealth.org
Phone: (360) 373-5031
Crisis Response Team: (360) 373-3425

Youth Suicide Prevention Program
www.yspp.org
Phone: (206) 297-5922
E-mail: **info@yspp.org**

United Way of Kitsap County
<http://unitedwayinfo.org/>
Phone: (360) 415-5892
E-mail: **info@unitedwayinfo.org**

FOR IMMEDIATE HELP CALL:

Crisis Clinic of Kitsap County: (360) 479-3033 or 1-800-843-4793

1-800-SUICIDE (national crisis line)

1-800-273-TALK (national crisis line)

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