

Homicide suspect in custody

December 31, 2023



A homicide investigation is underway following the death of a Crescent City woman, last Friday night. Phyllis Rickner, age not reported, was discovered deceased at her home on Humboldt Rd., late evening, December 29. Ms. Rickner has been identified as the mother of suspect Matthew Rickner, 29, who fled the scene after the elder Rickner previous to the incident, called the Sheriff's Dept to report her .45 caliber pistol was reported missing about 10:45PM.

Rickner was stopped by California Highway Patrol officers and reportedly was in possession of a .45 calibre pistol and methamphetamines. He was arrested by deputies about midnight off Bertch Avenue. Rickner listed his residence at the Humboldt address where both his parents reside. Matthew Rickner's father has been identified as a witness in the investigation.

Sheriff Garrett Scott released the following statement on the DNSD Facebook site: " We are deeply saddened by the events that took place last Friday night. Our hearts go out to the friends and family of the victim. I would like to send a huge thank you to Dispatcher Ruggles, who handled the incident and all the Del Norte Sheriff's Office staff who responded and all the allied agencies who responded to assist as well."

The investigation is being handled by Del Norte Sheriff Sergeant McClafin and investigator Balch.

No arraignment date has been announced at the time of posting this story.

