

Murder suspect enters not guilty pleas

January 18, 2024



Matthew Earl Rickner, 29, suspect in the murder of his mother Phyllis Jean Rickner, 68. Matthew Rickner entered pleas of Not Guilty to the murder charge and denied special allegations which would enhance sentencing guidelines, if convicted and also entered not guilty pleas for several felony and misdemeanor drug and health code violations.

Rickner's case readiness hearing has been set for Wednesday January 24 in Dept. 3, at 1:10PM with Judge Robert Cochran. The Preliminary Hearing is set for Thursday, January 25 with Judge Darren McElfresh in Dept. 2, at 2PM.

The suspect has been charged with the December 29th shooting death of his mother, Phyllis Rickner. The younger Rickner fled the scene of the Humboldt street family home, shortly before mid-night. The California Highway Patrol assisted on the apprehension and arrest of Rickner.

Rickner is represented by Public Defender Karen Olson. The People are represented by District Attorney Katie Micks and Assistant DA Todd Zocchi.