

NEWS RELEASE



**Russel Burger, Sheriff
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CASE NUMBER: 09-1590

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: February 25, 2009

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: July 16, 2009 / 1600

NATURE OF STORY: Arrest in Death Investigation

LOCATION: McGowan Creek

Victim/ Hernandez, Judy Nyoka 01-28-64

**Arrested/ Dawson, John David 07-16-62
1550 S Street, Springfield OR**

DETAILS: On February 25, 2009, the Lane County Sheriff's Office received information regarding the location of a deceased female. The partially decomposed body of Judy Hernandez was discovered on BLM land near mile post 2.5 on McGowan Creek Road.

The subsequent 4 month investigation by the Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police and District Attorney's Office has led to the arrest of John David Dawson. This week a Lane County Grand Jury indicted Dawson of Abuse of a Corpse, Second Degree.



Detectives located Dawson in Marcola this morning where he was arrested without incident and transported to the Lane County Adult Corrections facility.

The cause and manner of death was ruled undetermined by the Medical Examiners Office.

Prepared by: Lieutenant Randy Smith