

---

---

# LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## NEWS RELEASE



---

**CASE NUMBER:** 10-4113 (related case 03-11815)

**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:** 06-14-2010 / 7:00 PM

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** 06-22-2010 / 4:50 PM

**NATURE OF STORY:** Found Human Remains / Missing Person Identification

**LOCATION:** McKenzie River near Camp Creek Road and Sky High Drive

**MISSING PERSON IDENTIFIED:** Chirukandoth, Sashidharan P.  
DOB: 07-18-1948  
Springfield, OR

### **DETAILS:**

On Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, persons drifting the McKenzie River located what was determined to be a human mandible (lower jaw bone) on an island in the river near Camp Creek Road and Sky High Drive. Lane County Search and Rescue personnel, including Dive Team members, have searched the island and surrounding water for additional remains. No additional remains have been located.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office, working with the Medical Examiner, has identified the remains as that of Mr. Chirukandoth. Identification was made through dental records.

Mr. Chirukandoth was listed as a missing person following a boating accident in December, 2003. Investigation of the boating accident revealed Mr. Chirukandoth was floating the McKenzie River in a kayak with a friend who was in a canoe. Mr. Chirukandoth capsized his kayak in rapids in the area of mile marker 15 of the McKenzie Highway. Mr. Chirukandoth's friend observed the capsizing and attempted to rescue him but was unsuccessful. The friend contacted area residents who called for assistance. Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol and fire department water rescue searched the area and observed Mr. Chirukandoth underwater in the current but were unable to retrieve him. Mr. Chirukandoth could not be located during an extensive search of the area that had to be discontinued due to impending darkness and poor weather conditions. Sheriff's Marine Patrol and Search and Rescue conducted many searches of the river subsequent to the initial rescue efforts, however, Mr. Chirukandoth's body was never located.

As part of normal missing persons casework, Mr. Chirukandoth's dental records were obtained by the Sheriff's Office for identification purposes following the boating accident. DNA sampling will be made of the mandible so that future unidentifiable human remains from the McKenzie River can be compared to this sample.

###

**Prepared by:** Byron Trapp, Lieutenant

---

Russel E. Burger, Sheriff  
Lane County Sheriff's Office  
125 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene OR 97401

Phone: 541-682-4150  
Fax: 541-682-4522  
[www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff](http://www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff)  
Email – [sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us](mailto:sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us)