

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: Wednesday November 24, 2010

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On 11/23/10, at about 9:50 p.m., the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office responded to 2411 West Cameron Street, Township of Union, on a report of shots fired inside of the residence. The complainant, Rolland Melsness who resides at the residence, advised his brother Randolph W. Melsness, DOB 04/28/59, was making threats towards Rolland and their mother. The complainant advised Randolph was intoxicated and at one point fired several rounds in the basement area of the residence.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office searched the property and located Randolph in the residence sleeping. Randolph was taken into custody for endangering safety by intoxicated use of a firearm, disorderly conduct/domestic related, and for a local Eau Claire County Bench Warrant related to disorderly conduct.

The complainant and mother were fearful for their lives, as Randolph had reportedly made threats by using a firearm in the past. The Sheriff's Office was requested to search the property for any remaining firearms in an effort to prevent further related incidents once Randolph was released from jail.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office conducted a search of the property for weapons. During the search the body of Renee D. Maki, DOB 07/02/1959, was discovered deceased in a motor home located on the south side of the property. Renee was the girlfriend of Randolph who lived with him in the motor home. The details of the death are being investigated. The Sheriff's Office will release the cause of death upon the completion of an autopsy.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office is continuing its investigation with assistance from the Eau Claire and Altoona Police Departments.

The investigation is being treated as a homicide and Randolph is a subject of interest in the death of Renee. The Sheriff's Office will release more details after it concludes its investigation.

Captain Dan Bresina
Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office