
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 10-6849

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 09-20-10

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 09-21-10 – 3:45 pm

NATURE OF STORY: Death Investigation

LOCATION: Harper Road, near Junction City

INVOLVED: Richard Rauscher, age 47
Aidan Rauscher, age 9
Eryn Rauscher, age 7

DETAILS:

On 09-20-10 at approximately 5:45 pm, Jenifer Rauscher of Eugene called the Sheriff's Office to report that her estranged husband Richard, who had the couple's two daughters for a weekend visitation, had not dropped them off at school as planned that morning. Jenifer had been unable to reach Richard, although his vehicle was at home on Harper Road.

The doors and windows of the residence were locked; Sheriff's deputies ultimately forced entry into the residence and discovered the body of Richard Rauscher in a downstairs bedroom. They then located the bodies of 7 year old Eryn and 9 year old Aidan Rauscher in separate bedrooms upstairs. All three had died from apparent gunshot wounds.

A handgun was found near Richard Rauscher, and preliminary investigation indicates that his wound was self-inflicted. A hand-written note found at the scene implied that Richard Rauscher was despondent over his separation from Jennifer. State Police and officials from the Medical Examiner's section of the District Attorney's Office assisted in the investigation.

Prepared by: Captain Bill Thompson