



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009**

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department is investigating an unattended death at a house fire near Rathdrum.

About 6:45 p.m. Sunday evening, neighbors of the residence at 10278 N. Church Road noticed smoke coming from the single wide mobile home at that address. While the fire department was in route, neighbors attempted to put out the fire with a garden hose but were unable to overcome the flames.

About 8:45 p.m. firefighters told deputies on scene that they had discovered a dead body inside the residence.

Due to the state of the burned body, positive identification was not possible. Investigators are continuing their investigation today. Once the body is identified and notification of next of kin completed, the information will be released to the public.

Cause of the fire is also under investigation.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger



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MEDIA RELEASE UPDATE SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department and the Northern Lakes Fire Department have concluded their investigations into the fatal fire that occurred at 10278 N. Church Road, near Rathdrum, Idaho Sunday evening.

Northern Lakes Fire Investigator and the Idaho Fire Marshalls Office have determined that the fire was caused by an electrical problem that was due to inappropriate use of extension cords.

The remains of the man found in the burned out mobile home have been positively identified as Gary M. Lindgren, 65 who lived in the residence. The cause of his death was due to smoke inhalation.

The Sheriff's Department and Northern Lakes Fire Department have closed the case.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger