



# SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY

SHERIFF ROCKY WATSON  
UNDERSHERIFF TRAVIS CHANEY

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## KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office is investigating what initially appear to be an arson / suicide that occurred this afternoon at 2525 Searchlight Lane, in the Wolf Lodge Creek area of Kootenai County.

Emergency personnel were called about 2:15 this afternoon after a neighbor reported hearing a gunshot come from the residence then noticed smoke coming from the rear of the residence. When deputies arrived first, ammunition from inside the residence was exploding due to the fire. When fire fighters from Kootenai Fire and Rescue were able to enter the residence, they found a badly burned body inside.

Deputies had been at the home about 12:30 today to serve the male resident a temporary protection order that also ordered him to vacate the residence until the hearing on the order. The male had left the residence under the direction of the deputies.

The name of the victim will not be released until his identity can be confirmed and next of kin notified. This may take several days due to the severe burn damage to the remains. The home was a total loss.

No one else was injured in the incident. The Sheriff's Office will be continuing the investigation.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Major Ben Wolfinger