

Ramsey County Sheriff's Office Jack Serier, Sheriff

Press Release

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Ramsey County Sheriff's Office investigates shooting in White Bear Township that occurred on New Year's Day

Family gathering turns into tragedy when brother shoots brother, then kills self.

(White Bear Township, Minnesota) At approximately 3:47 pm on Tuesday, January 1, 2019, Ramsey County Sheriff deputies responded to a 911 call of shots fired and someone shot in a house in the 5400 block of Centerville Road in White Bear Township.

Persons leaving the residence told responding deputies that the alleged shooter was at an unknown location inside the residence. Deputies secured the neighborhood and Ramsey County SWAT was called to assist to locate the shooting subject and clearing the house. When able to safely enter the house, deputies found two deceased adult males. The Sheriff's Office is not looking for other suspects, and there is no danger to the public.

The scene was processed by investigators from the Ramsey County Sheriff Criminal Investigation Unit and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). The BCA is conducting the forensic investigation.

The deceased include Lawrence Klimek, born 1964, of Robbinsdale, Minnesota, and Leon Klimek, born 1962, of White Bear Township, Minnesota.

The investigation has determined that Lawrence was shot by his brother Leon shortly after arriving at the residence of his mother, and brother Leon, for a large family New Year's potluck gathering. Family fled the residence after the shots were fired and contacted law enforcement. Lawrence was found deceased inside the residence near the back door. Leon was found deceased in the basement with a self-inflicted gun wound.

The Sheriff's Office is continuing to investigate to determine the facts involving this tragic incident, and will not be releasing any further information until the investigation is complete.

The Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office continues to investigate the deaths of the deceased males.

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The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement services under contract for the community of White Bear Township.

