



Mesa County Coroner's Office

Dean M. Havlik, MD, Coroner

Kim Hollingshead, D-ABMDI, Chief Deputy Coroner

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 16, 2011

Contact: 970-256-6462
coroner@mesacounty.us

For Immediate Release

The Mesa County Coroner's Office has completed its examination regarding the death of David F. Johnson, a 48-year-old male resident of Grand Junction, Colorado. Mr. Johnson died as a result of a fire in his camper during the evening of Tuesday, June 14, 2011 behind the Dollar Tree store in the Rimrock Marketplace. Positive identification was made using dental records. The ***Cause of Death*** was ***Asphyxia due to Smoke and Soot Inhalation*** and the ***Manner of Death*** was ***Accident***. Alcohol intoxication was considered a contributing factor. According to interviews, Mr. Johnson was often seen in the Rimrock Marketplace "flying a sign" asking for money. He also had been seen camping in that area on several occasions.

The law enforcement agency overseeing this investigation is the Grand Junction Police Department. The Grand Junction Fire Department is investigating circumstances regarding the cause of the blaze. Please contact them for any further details.

Thank you