



Mesa County Coroner's Office

Dean M. Havlik, MD, Coroner

Kim Hollingshead, D-ABMDI, Chief Deputy Coroner

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: June 8, 2012

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

For Immediate Release

The Mesa County Coroner's Office has completed its examination regarding the death of Elizabeth "Suzanne" Hiles, a 59-year-old female resident of Grand Junction. Ms. Hiles' body was recovered from the Grand Valley irrigation ditch near 1188 18 Road on June 7, 2012. Ms. Hiles was intoxicated at the time of her death. Our office has been unable to specifically identify how she came to be in the irrigation ditch but believe she entered the canal near her home in the vicinity of Horizon Dr. and Glen Court.

The ***Cause of Death*** was ***Asphyxia due to Drowning*** and the ***Manner of Death*** was ***Accident***. Ms. Hiles lived alone and had no family in Grand Junction. The identification was made by using the lot numbers engraved on Ms. Hiles' hip replacement prosthetic.

The law enforcement agency overseeing this investigation is the Mesa County Sheriff's Office. Please contact them for any further details.

Thank you