



**Mesa County Coroner's Office**

Dean M. Havlik, MD, Coroner

Victor Yahn, Chief Deputy Coroner

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Date: February 23, 2015

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For Immediate Release

The Mesa County Coroner's Office has completed its examination regarding the deaths of Thomas Smith, a 56 year-old male and Tom Lintz, a 49 year old male both of Grand Junction, CO. These were the individuals involved in the fatal fire at the Guardian Storage facility on 28 ½ Road on the evening of February 21, 2015. The cause of death for both is thermal injuries and soot inhalation and the manner of death is accident.

The law enforcement agency overseeing this investigation is the Grand Junction Police Department and they are working jointly with the Grand Junction Fire Department. Please contact them for any further details regarding this case.

Thank you,

Victor Yahn, Chief Deputy Coroner