News Release
For Immediate Release
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Another Arrest in Connection to the Murder of Tara Lewandowski

In October of 2015 the Weld County Sheriff’s Office began assisting the Ault Police Department in the investigation of a missing woman from Pierce, Colorado, later identified as Tara Lewandowski.

This investigation resulted in the arrest of Chad Iler, Daniel Meyer, Michael Vassil, Scott Hanchett, Karly Hanchett, and Crystal Griffin for their involvement in the murder of Tara Lewandowski. The Weld County Sheriff’s Office has continued to investigate this incident that began over a year ago. Today another arrest was made in association with this case.

Thomas Vassil (2/14/1962) of Nunn has been arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit 1st degree murder for his involvement in the events that led up to Tara’s death. He is currently being held at the Weld County Jail.

This arrest, as well as the previous arrests, are the result of countless hours of investigation that utilized resources from the Weld County Sheriff’s Office, the Ault Police Department, as well as multiple local and out of state agencies. The Weld County Sheriff’s Office would like to thank everyone involved in this investigation.

This charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Anyone with information regarding this or any other crime is asked to call the Weld County Sheriff’s Office at 970-356-4015 or Northern Colorado Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or 1-800-444-3776. Tips can also be submitted through the Crime Stoppers website at www.crimeshurt.com. Those submitting tips through Crime Stoppers that lead to the arrest and filing of charges on a suspect(s) may be eligible for a cash reward of up to $2,000 from Crime Stoppers.

Steve Reams – Sheriff