



July 9, 2020

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Weld County Sheriff's Office seeking tips on 9th anniversary of cold case

The Weld County Sheriff's Office is asking the public for information in an unsolved, 9-year-old homicide investigation.

At 9:53 p.m. July 8, 2011, 30-year-old Armando Mata-Magallanes of Denver was reported as a missing person. The reporting party, Brenda De Anda, told investigators she last saw Mata-Magallanes at 5:30 a.m. that day when he left for work. He should have returned home about 2:30 p.m.

De Anda also told law enforcement sometime after Mata-Magallanes left for work he called saying he needed money. He told De Anda to sell his truck.

When De Anda asked why, an unknown Spanish speaking man got on the phone and told her she needed to sell the truck for \$30,000. The unknown man said "they" would call back at 11:30 a.m. on July 9. He then hung up the phone.

On July 9, 2011, the Weld County Sheriff's Office was contacted by an employee of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad who reported seeing a body near the east side of Interstate 76, about one-half mile east of mile marker 27 northeast of Lochbuie. Deputies were dispatched to the above location and found a deceased man who was later identified as Mata-Magallanes.

Mata-Magallanes died of a gunshot wound. The manner of death was ruled a homicide.

Investigators were able to determine Mata-Magallanes never showed up for work on July 8. Mata-Magallanes was last seen driving a 1983 blue Volkswagen Rabbit that was later recovered in the 1600 block of 29th Avenue in Denver.

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Anyone with information about this cold case is asked to contact Det. Byron Kastilahn at (970) 400-2827 or bkastilahn@weldgov.com.

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)**. **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.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Steve Reams'.

Steve Reams – Sheriff