BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE	**:**	**September 9, 2010**
RELEASED BY	**:**	**Lieutenant Al Smith**
CONTACT #	**:**	**538-7404**

UPDATED INFORMATION REGARDING DEATH AT ROMO RD ON 9-6-2010

Oroville – The body discovered after a reported burglary on Romo Road in Oroville was identified as Thomas E Willis, age 52, of Oroville. An autopsy was conducted and the results are expected in two to three weeks. No evidence of foul play was indicated. The investigation is continuing and a connection between Mr. Willis and the residence has been identified; Mr. Willis' girlfriend was evicted from the property on Romo Rd. earlier this year. Updated information will be provided when the final autopsy report is received.

The September 6, 2010 initial press release is contained below:

On September 6, 2010 at approximately 1433 hours the Butte County Sheriff's Office received a call from the homeowner at 114 Romo Rd, Oroville in regards to a possible arson and burglary to the residence. The reporting party stated that he arrived home at the residence and discovered his home had been burglarized and set on fire. Deputies responded to the scene and checked the inside of the residence which was not actively burning. While searching the residence, deputies located a deceased male adult inside.

Sheriff's detectives were called out to the scene along with a member of the Butte County Arson Task Force. The deceased male inside of the residence has been identified, but his name will not be released until next of kin is notified. The deceased male did not live at the residence.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is requested to call Lead Detective Chris Nicodemus at 530-538-7671.