El Paso County Sheriff's Office
"Serving the community for 150 years."

Terry Maketa, Sheriff
Paula Presley, Undersheriff

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Sheriff's Office Releases Black Forest Fire Investigation Executive Summary

The time frame of June 11-June 20, 2013 will forever be in the memories of the citizens of El Paso County. The 14,280 acre Black Forest Fire took the lives of 2 of our residents, destroyed 489 homes and left more partially damaged.

In an effort to offer as much information as possible, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office has created an Executive Summary of the investigation into the Black Forest Fire. This Summary includes an Introduction, the Investigation Methodology, discussion of the Scene Investigation, details of the Expanded Investigation and a Review.

It is not, however, the entire report of the investigation. As the case involves 2 homicides, it is still considered to be an active case, and as such, the original reports will not be released at this time. Should new information come to light, additional investigation will continue to be done.

The Sheriff's Office would like to thank all of the people, both in emergency services and citizen volunteers, who assisted with the efforts to combat this fire and help the community heal afterwards.

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