

---

---

# LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## NEWS RELEASE



---

**CASE NUMBER:** 10-03194

**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:** 05-12-2010 / 8:23 PM

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** 05-13-2010 / 3:30 AM

**NATURE OF STORY:** Murder Investigation

**LOCATION:** 70 N Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR

**VICTIM:** Mort, Kenneth Harry  
DOB: 12-18-1962  
Lowell, Oregon

**ARRESTED:** Gonzales, Robert Riley      **CHARGE:** Murder  
DOB: 12-26-1975  
Eugene, Oregon

**DETAILS:**

The Lane County Sheriff's Office received a call at 8:23 PM on 05-12-2010 of a shooting at the Jehovah's Witness Hall in Lowell. Responding deputies found Mort deceased due to gunshot wounds inside the church and identified Gonzales as the suspect. Deputies learned Gonzales had fled the area.

Oregon State Police troopers located Gonzales' vehicle abandoned approximately three miles from the church off North Shore Road. The area where Gonzales' vehicle was located was a remote forested area. A ground search was initiated and involved Lane County Sheriff's deputies, Oregon State Police troopers, Eugene Police officers, police dogs and the Lane County Sheriff's helicopter.

Law enforcement officers apprehended Gonzales approximately 3 ½ hours later at 12:06 AM on 05-13-2010. Gonzales was located approximately ½ mile into the timberland from his abandoned vehicle. Gonzales was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment of a dog bite injury which occurred during the arrest.

The victim, Mort, and Gonzales were known to each other. Gonzales is lodged in the Lane County Jail on a charge of Murder and the investigation is continuing. No other details are available for release.

**Prepared by:** Byron Trapp, Lieutenant

---

Russel E. Burger, Sheriff  
Lane County Sheriff's Office  
125 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene OR 97401

Phone: 541-682-4150  
Fax: 541-682-4522  
[www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff](http://www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff)  
Email – [sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us](mailto:sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us)