

Stanislaus County  
**SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson  
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



**MEDIA RELATIONS**



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** DATE 01/14/11  
**TIME:** TIME 9:05 AM

**ARREST MADE IN AIRPORT DISTRICT HOMICIDE**

Modesto, CA – An arrest has been made in last month's Christmas Eve homicide of 46-year-old Tevan Nicholson, whom was killed inside of a home in the Airport District.

Authorities with the Los Angeles Police Department's Pacific Division found 42-year-old Dennis James Boyles sleeping in the sand of Venice Beach early Tuesday morning. Detectives had previously identified Boyles as a "person of interest" in the December 24th incident on South Santa Cruz Avenue. According to LAPD, sleeping on the beach is a violation of one of their local municipal codes.

During the course of a records check, officers in Los Angeles revealed Boyles had an outstanding, no bail parole revocation warrant out of Illinois that had been issued in the wake of the December 24th homicide. Boyles was detained on the confirmed warrant, and detectives with Stanislaus County traveled to southern California in order to conduct their interview regarding the circumstances surrounding Nicholson's death.

Through the interview with Boyles, detectives gathered enough information in order to obtain a first-degree murder warrant for his arrest. Bail was set at \$3 million and transportation arrangements are still being made in order to bring Boyles back to Modesto. A DMV photograph of Dennis Boyles has been attached to this press release.

Anyone with further information regarding this case is urged to call Det. Darwin Hatfield at 209-525-7100. Those that wish to remain anonymous may call Stanislaus County Area Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-866-602-7463 or locally at 209-521-4636.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Luke Schwartz (209) 652-0211 ([tschwartz@stanislaussheriff.com](mailto:tschwartz@stanislaussheriff.com)).