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NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**JUDGE ORDERS TWO MEN TO STAND TRIAL
FOR THE 2006 MURDERS OF THREE PEOPLE IN PINYON PINES**

RIVERSIDE – Today, Oct. 31, 2016, a Riverside County judge found sufficient evidence for two men to stand trial for the 2006 murders of three people whose bodies were found in or near their Pinyon Pines home.

Robert Lars Pape, DOB: 5-16-88; and Cristin Conrad Smith, DOB: 10-10-88, must stand trial for the murders of Jon Hayward, Vicki Friedli, and Vicki's daughter Becky.

A preliminary hearing was held over 3 ½ days, concluding the afternoon of Oct. 31, 2016. Superior Court Judge Bernard Schwartz then ruled that there was sufficient evidence for Pape and Smith to stand trial on all charges.

The DA's Office only presented a portion of the evidence in this case at the preliminary hearing.

An information arraignment has been scheduled for both defendants for Nov. 15, 2016, in Dept. 44 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. A trial could begin sometime within four months to a year.

Three counts of murder, with a special circumstance allegation of committing multiple murders, were filed by the DA's Office on June 8, 2016, against Pape and Smith. The special circumstance allegation makes Pape eligible for the death penalty. DA Mike Hestrin will make a decision at a later date whether or not to seek death against Pape. Smith was a juvenile at the time of the murders so he is not eligible for the death penalty, but faces life in prison without the possibility of parole.

At about 9:50 p.m. on Sept. 17, 2006, firefighters were called to a residential structure fire in the 68000 block of Alpine Drive in the mountain community of Pinyon Pines. Firefighters found Becky Friedli's body on fire in a wheelbarrow near the home. After extinguishing the house fire, firefighters found the bodies of Vicki Friedli and Jon Hayward inside the residence.

The case, INF1600755, is being prosecuted by Chief Assistant District Attorney John Aki and Supervising Deputy District Attorney Brandon Smith.

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