



NEWS RELEASE

Loveland Police Department

Eric R. Stewart
Interim Chief of Police

For Immediate Release
January 2, 2023

Contact: Public Information Office
MediaInquiries@cityofloveland.org

UPDATE: SUSPECT IDENTIFIED

The suspect has been identified as:

Samuel Strait Date of Birth: 10/01/1992

The information contained in this news release is based on preliminary information available at the time of drafting. The Loveland Police Department's understanding of this incident may change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed, and reviewed. The purpose of this news release is to provide timely information to the public.

LOVELAND POLICE MAKE ARREST INVOLVING FENTANYL OVERDOSE OF A 15-YEAR OLD

LOVELAND – Loveland Police Department made an arrest of a 30-year old male who was involved in the overdose death of a 15-year old male caused by fentanyl intoxication.

On Sunday, July 21, 2022, shortly before 7:45 a.m., officers responded to a medical call in the 1300 block of N. Washington St.

Arriving officers were given details that a 15-year-old male was found unresponsive and not breathing.

The male was transported to a local area hospital, then air lifted to Children's Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, where he later died.

A Larimer County Coroner's report ruled the cause of death as fentanyl intoxication.

HB22-1326, *Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention* was enacted on July 1, 2022. The bill makes it a level 1 drug felony if the defendant unlawfully distributed, manufactured, dispensed, or sold fentanyl, carfentanyl, or its analogs, and a person died as a proximate cause of using or consuming it.

Loveland Detectives, with the assistance of Detectives from the Northern Colorado Drug Task Force, began an investigation into the source of the fentanyl used by this 15-year-old.



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Through digital forensics, Detectives discovered evidence of correspondence related to drug activity between the deceased 15-year-old and a 30-year-old suspect.

Evidence was presented to the District Attorney's Office which led to the arrest of the 30-year-old male on December 29th, 2022.

The male was charged with:

- Distribution of Fentanyl Resulting in Death, Class I Drug Felony
- Distribution to a Minor, Class I Drug Felony

Suspect was held on a \$750,000 CPS bond.

Anyone with additional information about this case is asked to contact Detective Corey Richards with the Criminal Investigations Unit of the Loveland Police Department at 970-962-2274 or by email at Corey.Richards@cityofloveland.org.

The Loveland Police Department cautions all members of the public to the danger involving fentanyl use of any kind.

Please report any concerning information to the Loveland Police Department or Northern Colorado Drug Task Force.

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