



DPS PR# 11-012 **UPDATE**
March 3, 2011

Homicide Suspect in Custody

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska) – The Anchorage Police Department and the Alaska State Troopers took Blair Lawless into custody at about 3:30 this afternoon. He was arrested in the area of 41st Street and Garfield in Anchorage.

Troopers, APD seek Homicide Suspect

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska)— Today Alaska State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department are actively seeking 19-year-old Blair Lawless of Fairbanks. AST has a warrant against Lawless for Murder in the 1st Degree, Tampering with Evidence and Vehicle Theft I and APD has a warrant against Lawless for Providing False Information and Resisting Arrest. Lawless is wanted for probation violations. Lawless is charged in connection with the death of his father, Melvin Lawless, whose body was found on his Fairbanks-area property yesterday.

Yesterday troopers responded to a residence in Fairbanks to perform a welfare check on Melvin Lawless, 60, of Fairbanks. Melvin Lawless was reported missing by a concerned family member. Family grew concerned when he missed an appointment and hadn't heard from him in a week. Troopers found Melvin Lawless dead on his property. The investigation into the death is ongoing; however, enough probable cause was evident for a warrant to be obtained against Melvin's son, Blair Lawless.

APD contacted Lawless during a routine traffic stop early this morning. Lawless was a passenger in a vehicle that had an equipment violation. He provided a false name and date of birth to the officer. When APD attempted to detain Lawless until they could positively identify him, Lawless was able to get away from officers and flee.

If you see Lawless or have any information regarding the whereabouts call 911. Do not attempt to contact Lawless, he is considered potentially armed and dangerous.

*Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.