



## **COPLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Press Release**

**Saturday, March 11, 2023 / 1:55 PM**

On Friday, March 10, 2023, about 8:50 AM, the Copley Police Dispatch Center received a call reporting a body lying adjacent to the roadway in the 2100 block of Wright Road. Copley Police officers arrived on the scene and discovered a deceased adult Hispanic male who had been bound and gagged. The male was lying close to the edge of the roadway and appeared to have been dumped there sometime overnight.

Copley Police learned that the Akron Police Department had discovered two dead adult males under similar circumstances in that city not far from the location of the body in Copley. Those bodies were discovered at about 8:30 AM.

Copley and Akron police officers commenced a joint investigation.

Police believe this was an isolated incident and that the public at large was not in any danger. We do not believe that the public should have any concern for their safety at this time.

Police believe that the males had likely been kidnapped from outside this area and brought to Summit County. These males had been bound and gagged. Police are still trying to determine the reason for the kidnapping or what activity the victims might have been involved in.

It appears that person(s) shot these males while they were bound and gagged. Two of the bodies were left in Akron on Cordova and one on Wright Road in Copley. These two areas are in close proximity to each other.

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Late in the afternoon of Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, police located a suspect in Copley. Officers eventually charged that male with two counts, one count of aggravated murder and one of attempted aggravated murder.

Police executed a search warrant at the suspect's Copley home with the assistance of the Metro SWAT Team. That search was conducted late in the evening of Friday March 10, 2023 and the early morning hours of March 11, 2023.

Autopsies were conducted by the Summit County Medical Examiner's Office on Saturday, March 11, 2023. All three deceased males suffered bullet wounds to the head.

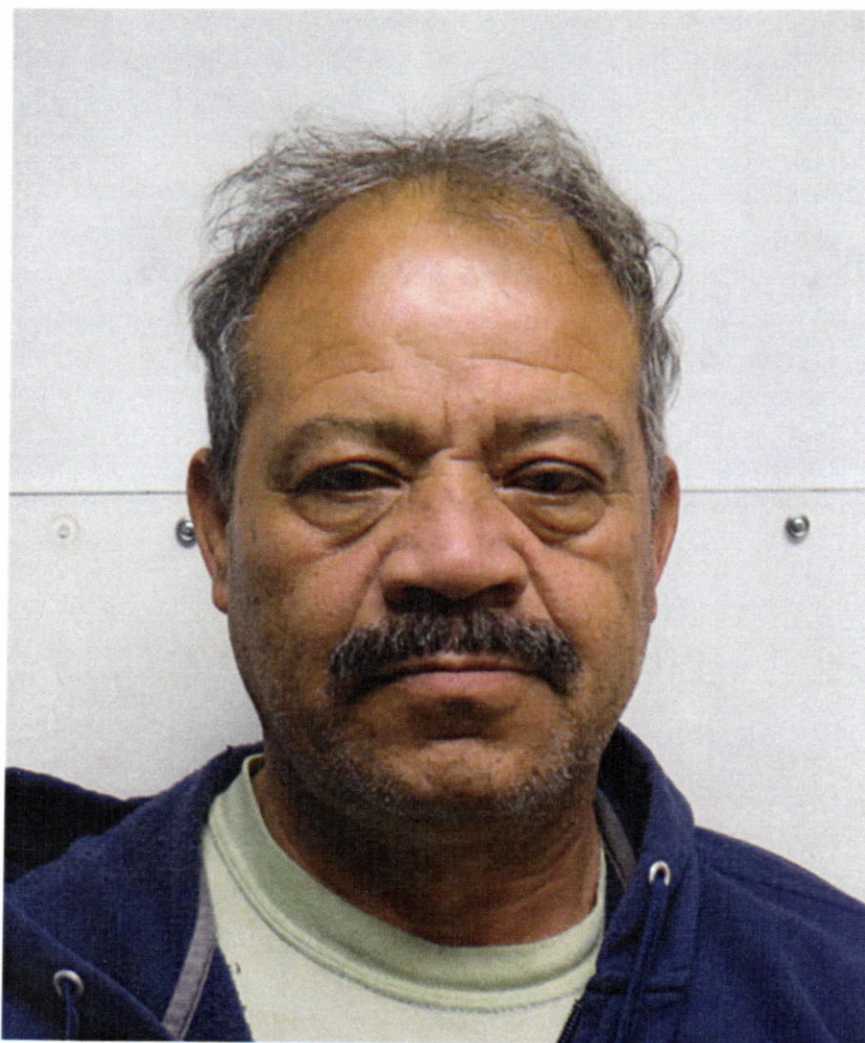
Police have not yet positively identified all of the victims.

Copley and Akron Police detectives continue to investigate the incident together and are still pursuing leads. Police believe there could be additional suspects.

The male charged so far has been identified as Elias Gudino of Henetta Avenue in Copley, 58 years of age. Additional criminal charges are pending.

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

Michael Mier,  
Chief of Police  
330-666-4260



**Elias Gudino**