

# Three arrested in Flat Creek murders

## *Third man, who allegedly fired shots, arrested in Portland*

Statesman Examiner, By Jodi Miller

November 22, 2000

Three men have been arrested in connection with the murder of Nicholas Dewayne Kaiser, 21, and a second man assumed to be Joshua T. Schaefer, also 21.

John Douglas Grange, 26, was arrested in Portland on Nov. 14 on a warrant charging two counts of second degree murder.

Jeffrey Stephen Cunningham, 25, was apprehended on Nov. 3 in Broward County, Florida on an arrest warrant charging Rendering Criminal Assistance First Degree.

Dane Matthew Williams, 27, was arrested on Nov. 8 in Vancouver, Washington on an arrest warrant also charging Rendering Criminal Assistance First Degree.

A hunter reported finding a burned out vehicle on a remote mountain in the Flat Creek area on Sept. 24. Animals had scattered the remains of two bodies.

The owner of the vehicle was positively identified through dental records as Kaiser, born Nov. 11, 1978.

The remains of the other person are still undergoing DNA testing, but it is assumed that they are those of Schaefer, born April 27, 1979, whose wife reported him missing in June.

Schaefer, of California, had been visiting Kaiser, who was considered a transient. They were last heard from at the Northport Barter Fair on June 10, when Schaefer was cut off on a cell-phone call to his wife, Kim Kerpan.

Kerpan feared foul play when she discovered that Kaiser had angered past criminal associates.

According to the Stevens County Undersheriff Gilbert Geer, "(Kaiser's) past cooperation with law enforcement may have had some bearing on the current situation."

Stevens County Sheriff Craig Thayer asked that a detailed account of events not . . .

“. . . evidence seems to corroborate that they died by means of gunshot wounds."