

# United States Marshals Service



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 30, 2005

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## **Kentucky Homicide Suspect Arrested in Tukwila.**

United States Marshal Eric E. Robertson of the Western District of Washington announced the arrest of Francois and Morgan CUNNINGHAM by members of the Pacific Northwest Fugitive Apprehension Task Force (PNWFAT). Francois CUNNINGHAM, a 26 year-old Seattle native, was wanted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) for Weapons Violations, and by the Louisville, KY Police Department as the main suspect in a double homicide which occurred on October 12<sup>th</sup> in Louisville, where the couple had been residing.

On October 12, 2005, the remains of 2 individuals were found in a burned out vehicle in a Louisville area park. Both victims had been shot several times before the vehicle was set on fire. Subsequent investigation showed that the victims were to have met with Francois CUNNINGHAM shortly before they were killed to purchase Ecstasy. The Louisville, KY Police Department requested the assistance of the ATF in the investigation. The ATF obtained a federal Weapons Violation warrant against Francois CUNNINGHAM based on information developed during the investigation. In addition to identifying Francois CUNNINGHAM as a suspect in the homicide, investigators from the ATF also developed information that Francois' wife, Morgan CUNNINGHAM, a 24 year-old Sammamish native, may have information related to the case. The ATF in Kentucky then obtained a federal Material Witness warrant for her arrest.

The ATF then turned to the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) for assistance in locating and apprehending the CUNNINGHAMS. Information developed by the ATF and USMS investigators in Louisville led to a collateral lead being sent to the PNWFAT. After days of surveillance, the CUNNINGHAMS were taken into custody without incident outside a restaurant in Tukwila, WA on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

The PNWFAT is a U.S. Marshals-sponsored partnership comprised of investigators from the King County Sheriffs Office, Seattle Police Department, Washington State Department of Corrections, and the U.S. Marshals Service. The Task Force is supported by the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative and was formed to concentrate apprehension efforts to remove federal, state and local fugitives from the streets. The Task Force objective is to disrupt illegal gun and drug traffickers in the Pacific Northwest and to reduce the amount of violence in the region.

For additional information on other major case fugitives, go to the U.S. Marshals Service's website at [www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov). For additional information on the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Initiative, go to the PSN website at [www.psn.gov](http://www.psn.gov).

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For information on the apprehension, call Chief Deputy David Miller at 206-370-8602, for information on the criminal case, call the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms at 206-389-5800.