



**SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**DATE/TIME: July 8, 2014**

**LOCATION: Santa Cruz Small Craft Harbor**

**TOPIC: Homicide Arrest**

**CASE NUMBER: 13S-09680**

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### **INFORMATION:**

On Friday July 4, 2014, Detectives from the Santa Cruz Police Department arrested the following person for the murder of a 51 year old Santa Cruz man:

**Alix Catherine Tichleman – 26 years old – Folsom, CA resident**

On November 23, 2013 Santa Cruz Police conducted a death investigation aboard a vessel at B-dock in the Santa Cruz Small Craft Harbor. Detectives were called to the scene after circumstances of the case appeared suspicious in nature.

Since, November of 2013, SCPD Detectives have been conducting an intensive investigation to learn the circumstances surrounding the death, and learn more about the suspect. Ms. Tichleman was identified as a suspect in the case after it was learned that she had an ongoing prostitution relationship with the victim. Ms. Tichleman works as a high-priced outcall prostitute and meets her clients through a Website "Seeking Arrangements". During interviews, Ms. Tichleman boasted of over 200 client relationships.

Detectives obtained text messages and emails between Ms. Tichleman and her clients, including our victim. Detectives learned that Ms. Tichleman met with the victim on the night of his death. The investigation showed that Ms. Tichleman provided heroin and actually injected the victim with the heroin during her visit. The victim died of a heroin overdose as a result of the injection provided by Ms. Tichleman.

Detectives obtained security footage from the victim's yacht. The video shows the victim suffering medical complications and going unconscious. Rather than provide first aid or call 9-1-1, Ms. Tichleman proceeds to gather her belongings including the heroin and needles. The video also shows Ms. Tichleman stepping over the victim's body several times as she is gathering her belongings. At one point, she steps over the body to finish a glass of wine. Finally, she leaves the boat and reaches back in to lower a blind and conceal the victim's body from outside view.

SCPD Detectives discovered another case with similar circumstances involving Ms. Tichleman in another state. SCPD Detectives are looking into that death investigation and Ms. Tichleman's involvement.

As the investigation continued, SCPD Detectives tracked the activity of Ms. Tichleman. Detectives became concerned that she might leave the area, so the decision was made to affect the arrest, even though our investigation is still continuing. Detectives lured Ms. Tichleman back to the Santa Cruz area by posing as a potential client. She agreed on a price in excess of \$1,000 and to meet at an upscale location. When she arrived in Santa Cruz, Ms. Tichleman was arrested on July 4, 2014.

Ms. Tichleman was booked into Santa Cruz County Jail for (1) Second degree Murder, (2) Destruction of Evidence, (3) Transporting and Providing Narcotics.

**Alix Tichleman**



**For additional information, contact: Deputy Chief Steve Clark**

**Phone: (831) 420-5815**

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Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; [www.santacruzpolice.com](http://www.santacruzpolice.com) . Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.