

**Tribune: Man guilty in 1984 murder of Tempe woman 04-10 news story by Gary Grado**

A jury on Thursday convicted a former Tempe man in the 1984 murder of his business partner. The jury in Maricopa County Superior Court listened to evidence in a trial that lasted about nine weeks and deliberated a day-and-a-half before finding Robert Ortloff, 47, guilty of first-degree murder, arson and burglary. The state claimed Ortloff killed 20-year-old Kathleen Smith, daughter of former Tempe City Councilwoman Carol Smith, because Kathleen Smith was going to report him to police for stealing \$7,000 from their joint business account, according to court documents. The two were in the process of opening a Subway shop at the time of her death, and Ortloff was also set to receive \$125,000 in life insurance. The defense insisted someone else killed Smith and pointed to a size 9 1/2 footprint found in a flower bed outside Smith's condominium at 700 W. University Drive, where she was killed. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113497> (related: [http://www.mcaodocuments.com/press/20080410\\_a.pdf](http://www.mcaodocuments.com/press/20080410_a.pdf),  
<http://www.azcentral.com/community/tempe/articles/2008/04/10/20080410tr-murder0410-ON.html>)

**12 News: Suspect booked in pregnant mom crash 04-10 news story by Melissa Blasius**

Phoenix police say they're booking a 24-year-old man on two second degree murder charges after a crash that killed a pregnant mom and her unborn child. Investigators say they believe Jose Sanchez had been drinking prior to the crash. The victim, 41-year-old Erica Diaz, was less than a block from her home when her car was hit Tuesday afternoon. A funeral is planned for Friday, and relatives have set up a bank account to benefit her three kids. It's account #1020716 at Desert Schools Federal Credit Union. Family and friends gathered around a candlelit memorial at the accident scene Wednesday night. Diaz had two daughters, 10 and 9, and a son, 3. . .

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/2008/04/10/20080410n-deadlyaccident411-CP.html>

**Tribune: Man pleads guilty to slaying of wife last year 04-11 AP news story**

PHOENIX (AP) -- A Buckeye man is facing a 22-year prison term without the possibility of parole after pleading guilty to a charge of second-degree murder in the slaying of his wife. Luis Ignacio Ruiz, 38, is scheduled to be sentenced May 7 in Maricopa County Superior Court. Ruiz was charged with first-degree murder but struck a deal Wednesday with prosecutors in which he pleaded guilty to a lesser homicide charge. Maria Ruiz, 34, was found dead Feb. 12, 2007, by a teenage family member who arrived home from school, authorities said. . .

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AZ\\_SLAYING\\_PLEA\\_AZOL-?  
SITE=AZMES&SECTION=STATE&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AZ_SLAYING_PLEA_AZOL-?SITE=AZMES&SECTION=STATE&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

**Tribune: Gilbert police use Taser on man in arrest 04-10 news story by David Biscobing**

A 36-year-old man was shocked with a Taser by Gilbert police after officers say he resisted arrest during a traffic stop Wednesday. Officers stopped Mark Prom near Baseline Road and Corrine Drive after he was seen driving erratically. He had struck a curb and blown out his tire, police said. Officers suspected he was driving under the influence. After they told him he was under arrest, he resisted the officers, police said. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113527>

**KTAR: Attack on Mormon Missionary Could Be Hate Crime 04-11 news story by Sandra Haros**

Mesa police are still searching for clues in what they believe could be the first known hate crime against a Mormon missionary in the United States. The missionary was punched repeatedly by two men after he was awakened by a tap on the window at his apartment, near Brown and Recker, about 4 a.m. last Friday. He was not seriously injured. During the incident, one of the attackers yelled profanities and made references to the victim's being Mormon. Don Evans of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints said Thursday that church members are ``disappointed" by the attack, but do not know if it was a hate-crime. . .

<http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=803915&r=1>

**Tribune: Police seek man in bank robbery 04-11 news story by Eddi Trevizo**

Mesa police are looking for a man who robbed a bank and has evaded police for seven days, authorities said. The robbery took place at M&I Bank, 9953 E. Baseline Road, about 10:05 a.m. on April 3. According to police, the man entered the bank, handed an employee a note demanding cash, and simulated a weapon. The man took the money and fled in what police suspect is a white compact car with tinted windows. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113568>

**12 News: Driver-passenger violence on a city bus 04-10 news story by Veronica Sanchez**

A City of Phoenix bus driver is in trouble after he hit a passenger. Phoenix passenger Ricky Hicks claims the bus driver punched him in the back of the head and on his nose, bloodying parts of his face. Police were called to the scene of the fight and filed a report. It happened during bus route 35 near 35th Avenue and Northern. Bus driver Michael Berry has a different story. In a transit report, he claims Hicks threw a soda at him forcing him to kick him off the bus. . .

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/2008/04/10/20080410n-busfight0410-CP.html>

**Tribune: Phoenix police detain 23 suspected illegal immigrants 04-10 AP news story**

PHOENIX - Phoenix police say they've detained 23 suspected illegal immigrants after stopping a suspicious truck. Detective Reuben Gonzales says in a statement that patrol officers spotted the truck just after 8:30 a.m. Thursday in a west Phoenix neighborhood. The driver ran away after stopping and hasn't been found. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113494> (related: <http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=802948&r=1>)

**Tribune: Attacker killed by police still unidentified 04-10 news story by Katie McDevitt**

Police haven't yet identified the knife-wielding man killed Monday in an officer-involved shooting that began as a domestic

dispute. Detectives said they have been given several different names for the victim but haven't been able to confirm his identity, said Detective Steve Berry, Mesa police spokesman. The officer involved in the shooting is Marshall Hermeston, on the force since 2006, Berry said. Hermeston is on the standard three-day paid administrative leave given to officers after they are involved in shootings. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113569>

**KTAR: Crackdown on Illegal Music Downloads Hits ASU Students 04-10 news story by Colton Shone**

Nearly 100 students at Arizona State University have been slapped with lawsuits in a federal crackdown on illegal music downloads. Unlike I-tunes, which charges a buck a tune, you might wind up paying nearly \$800 per tune if you're caught downloading illegally. But, even with the feds breathing down their necks, some ASU students said they don't care. "I don't listen to the radio anymore, i just use my I-pod," said one woman. "So how are you going to hear new music and know if you like it unless you download it." . .

<http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=802790&r=1>

**Tribune: Mesa immigration protest prompts police memo 04-10 news story by Katie McDevitt**

Mesa Police Chief George Gascón unveiled more of his plan Thursday to minimize civil unrest when and if Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio brings his anti-immigration sweeps into the city. The strategy includes asking for the help of clergy and the legal community. Gascón wrote in a memo to his department Thursday that a group of about 15 pro-Arpaio protesters held demonstrations in Mesa Thursday near Gilbert and Broadway roads. One protester yelled out a racial slur at a black man and another brought along a pit bull that snapped at police officers. "This incident, as well as others during prior sweeps are clear indications of the volatility that can be visited upon our city as these events continue to unfold," Gascón wrote. The memo said police intend to videotape the events and request the help of the legal community and local clergy to serve as mediators in the crowds. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113510>

**Tribune: Chandler set to approve pay hike for police 04-10 news story by Dennis Welch**

Chandler's City Council unanimously approved a 5 percent pay raise Thursday night for police sergeants as part of a labor deal that guarantees they are among the highest paid in the state. Currently, the positions are among the lowest paid in Arizona when compared to other municipalities of similar size. However, the pay hike will make Chandler sergeants the fourth highest-paid group of mid-level officers in the state behind their counterparts in Glendale, Avondale and Scottsdale. They presently start out at \$69,140 per year and top out at about \$72,596, according to police officials. Under the new pay scale, they'll begin at \$83,012 and max out at \$87,163. The three-year deal between the city and the Chandler Lieutenants and Sergeants Association was negotiated late last month and follows an agreement Chandler made with lower rank-and-file police officers that gave them a 9 percent pay hike. . .

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/113506>

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## ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE NEWS

**KVOA: UA football player is investigative lead in sexual assault 04-10 news story by David Marino**

News 4 has learned a University of Arizona football player is the investigative lead in a sexual assault case. News 4 obtained the court documents that detail a sexual assault of a UA football player on a woman. The court documents say the encounter happened in the middle of the night. . .

[http://www.kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=8147824&nav=menu216\\_3](http://www.kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=8147824&nav=menu216_3)

**KTAR: Navajo Police Chief Placed on Paid Leave over 'Internal Matter' 04-10 AP news story**

The Navajo Nation's chief of police was placed on paid administrative leave this week, but tribal officials wouldn't say why. Police Chief Jim Benally declined to comment Wednesday. Samson Cowboy, director of public safety for the tribe, said the issue is an internal matter and declined to discuss it further. "When we do internal issues, we like to keep it that way, stick with the policy," he said. Benally will be on leave until at least Tuesday, and Cowboy said he then will assess whether to extend it. Window Rock Capt. Ronnie Wauneka is serving as chief in Benally's absence. . .

<http://www.ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=802721&r=1>

**Republic: Colorado City CPS phone call resembles one made in Texas, One led to raid, one didn't 04-11 news story by Amanda J. Crawford**

Arizona child-welfare officials are investigating a call from a 16-year-old girl alleging sexual abuse in the polygamist stronghold of Colorado City - a call similar to one in Texas that led officials to raid a related polygamist compound last week and take more than 400 children into state custody. The calls came within a week of each other and were allegedly made by girls of the same age and involved similar allegations of abuse. In both cases, the calls were made to outside organizations and referred to child-welfare authorities. In both cases, officials were unable to immediately find the girls who made the calls. It is unclear at this time whether the calls are related. . .

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2008/04/11/20080411cps0411.html?source=nletter-news>