



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

2000 MAIN STREET

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kenneth W. Small

Chief of Police

## ***PRESS RELEASE***

**Release Date:** January 24, 2011    **Time:** 11:15 am    **Prepared by:** Lt. Russell Reinhart

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**Type of Incident:** Death Investigation of two teenage minors

**Location:** 15500 block of Huntington Village Lane, Huntington Beach

**Date of Occurrence:** January 21, 2011

**Case Number:** 11-001116

### **Details:**

On January 21, 2011, at about 10:05 am, the Huntington Beach Police Department responded to a report of trespassers in a vacant apartment in the 15500 block of Huntington Village Lane. The police officers discovered two teenage minors inside the apartment. They were both deceased.

This investigation is in its preliminary stages, but at this time it appears the deaths were accidental and related to alcohol and/or drug use. The parents of both minors have been contacted. The minors were a 15 year old male from Westminster and a 16 year old female from Huntington Beach. Their names are not being released by the police department.

The police officers found an empty can of "Four Loko" alcoholic beverage inside the vacant apartment. Four Loko is a sweetened drink that contains both alcohol and caffeine. The producers of Four Loko were issued a warning letter from the Food and Drug Administration on November 17, 2010 that their product was unsafe. Some states and universities have banned the sale of this drink.

There were also other indications of possible drug and/or alcohol use inside the vacant apartment. While these deaths appear accidental in the preliminary stages of this investigation, the Huntington Beach Police Department is continuing to investigate this incident. Detectives are also working to determine how these minors obtained these alcoholic products and possible drugs that appeared to have caused their deaths.

Anyone with information regarding these deaths is asked to call Detective Pat Ellis at 714-536-5971.