



# SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060



## MEDIA RELEASE

**DATE/TIME:** July 6, 2021

**LOCATION:** 155 Center Street

**TOPIC:** Murder Investigation-Victim Identification

**CASE NUMBER:** 21S-03739

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### INVOLVED SUBJECT(S)

#### VICTIM

**Name:** Rachel "Eli" Meisenheimer    **D.O.B.:** 07/22/1987    Transient-Santa Cruz Area

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### UPDATE

The victim of this tragic incident has been identified as 33 year-old Rachel "Eli" Meisenheimer. Through the course of the investigation, Detectives learned that Paepke and Meisenheimer have been involved in a relationship for approximately five (5) years. Local records indicate Meisenheimer and Paepke were transient in the Santa Cruz area. Paepke remains in-custody at Santa Cruz County Jail with no bail.

The Santa Cruz Police Department is asking anyone with information about this case to contact Santa Cruz Police Department Detective Trevor Kendall at (831) 420-5963 or leave information on the Crime Tip Line at (831) 420-5995.

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### BACKGROUND

On Friday, July 1, 2021, at approximately 4:55 p.m. a male subject later identified as Beau Joseph Paepke (30 years) arrived at the Santa Cruz County Jail in order to turn himself in for an unreported homicide that occurred within the city of Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to the County Jail where they contacted Paepke and obtained enough information to confirm a homicide had in fact occurred and the location of the crime scene.

Officers responded to a recreational vehicle parked in the 100 block of Front Street where they discovered the crime scene and victim inside. The victim was a 33 year-old female subject living in the RV in the Santa Cruz area. The victim's identity is being withheld at this time pending notifications.

Santa Cruz Police Detectives were called to the scene and continued the investigation into the early morning hours. Following an interview of Paepke, he provided a full confession to the murder which took place on Monday, June 28, 2021, in the RV while parked in the 900 block of

**For additional information, contact: Lieutenant Arnold Vasquez    Phone: (831) 420-5856**

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Soquel Avenue. Paepke was ultimately booked into Santa Cruz County Jail on a charge of 187(a) PC – Murder.

Detectives are actively working the case and processing evidence collected from the scene.

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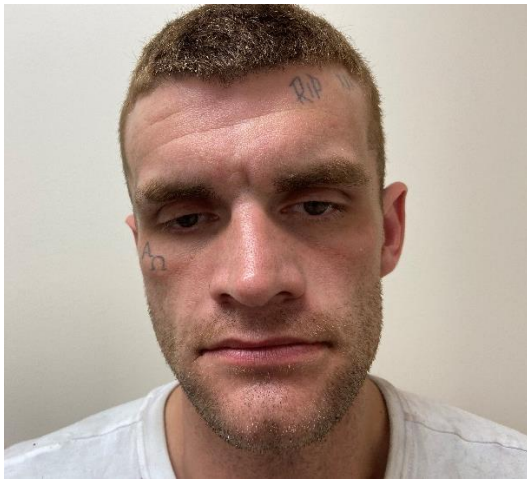


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**Beau Joseph Paepke**

**01/25/1991**

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