

Teen murder suspects still await extradition

Written by

Wednesday, 01 August 2007 08:32

Teen murder suspects Tabitha Messina, 18, and Carlos Christopher, 19, are still awaiting extradition to South Euclid, Ohio, just outside Cleveland.

The two, discovered in Avery County Monday, are accused of the Sunday beating murders of Messina's father, Richard Messina, and girlfriend Sandra Cover.

Police discovered two cars were stolen from the scene, including the black GMC Jimmy Avery authorities discovered in the parking lot of the Parkview Lodge in Linville Falls.

Prior to the murders, Richard Messina had reported a trespasser with a "dark complexion." 911 calls were not unexpected- law enforcement had been called to the home 68 times since January of 2005 for various reasons including trespassing and juvenile disturbances.

A recent high school graduate, Tabitha Messina had moved in with her father approximately two years ago after the death of her grandmother. Richard Messina and Cover had been in a relationship since Tabitha was 8-years-old, family says, and Cover had even taken Tabitha to family gatherings.

The teens are each being held under a \$1 million dollar bond. Sheriff Kevin Frye is not sure when Ohio authorities will arrive to take the pair back to South Euclid. The incident marks the first two homicides since October of 2003 in the Ohio town.