



June 27, 2008

Police: Dogs mauled Titusville woman to death

*BY KAUSTUV BASU
FLORIDA TODAY*

TITUSVILLE -- Two Titusville dogs are likely to be euthanized after they mauled and killed their owner, Titusville police said Friday.

Police said 74-year-old Loraine May was found dead at her Elliot Avenue residence by her son after he returned from work Thursday afternoon. She had been dead for several hours. Police said she had been bitten on her arms, shoulder and neck.

An autopsy by the medical examiner's office Friday concluded that she had died of multiple blunt trauma caused by two of her dogs. The final medical report and the investigation can take up to 12 weeks, police said.

The two dogs – a golden retriever and labrador mix and an Australian shepherd – are being held by Brevard County Animal Service and Enforcement.

"Euthanasia will be the most likely course once we complete our investigation," said Bob Brown of the animal service. The family has authorized the dogs be destroyed, police said. May had another dog at the house, a cocker spaniel named Jolie, but police said it was not involved in the attack.

A neighbor said that the labrador mix was an aggressive dog and did not get along with the two other dogs. "I believe it was segregated in another room," said Milton Farrow, who lives two doors from May's house.
