Deputies arrest suspect in dragging death

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Body

A man pictured in a photograph found near the body of a woman who had been dragged behind a vehicle for more than a mile was *arrested* on a murder charge, authorities said Wednesday.

Jose Luis Rubi-Nava, 36, was being held without bail in the Douglas County jail, Sheriff Dave Weaver said.

Weaver said the woman had not been identified.

Preliminary results of an autopsy released indicated the woman died of asphyxiation and head injuries from being strangled by being dragged by a vehicle. The coroner's office declined comment early Wednesday.

The sheriff said a photo of Rubi-Nava and a woman were found near the victim when she was discovered before dawn Monday about 20 miles south of Denver.

Weaver did not say whether the woman in the photo had been identified. He refused to take questions after reading a brief statement at a news conference.

Authorities had <u>made</u> the photo public, and Weaver said without elaborating that tips had helped lead to the arrrest.

Rubi-Nava was taken into custody Tuesday night. Federal authorities placed an immigration hold on him, but Weaver did not say whether he was an *illegal immigrant*.

Rubi-Nava was scheduled to appear in court later Wednesday. Court officials said no documents had been filed in the case as of Wednesay morning.

Deputies said the gruesome crime left a trail of blood through a subdivision of scattered houses near the town of Castle Rock.

Nancy Foley, who lives near the house where the body was found, said the victim's face was unrecognizable and an orange tow rope was found around her neck.

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