

Son arrested in supposed death of missing Plano mother

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The son of a 62-year-old Plano mother reported missing on Saturday was charged with murder on the same day.

Plano police were dispatched to the Oaks of Collin Creek, in the 200 block of Dogwood Place, on Saturday morning to respond to a "welfare concern with suspicious circumstances" call.

Paul Edward Hancock, 23, told police that when he woke up, his mother was missing and their apartment was in shambles.

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After initial investigation of the apartment unit, police determined that Ellen Hancock was missing and suspected foul play was involved.

"The evidence that we presented to the judge prompted foul play," said Detective Jerry Minton, a Plano police spokesperson. "Otherwise there wouldn't have been an arrest warrant released."

Paul Hancock was arrested at 10:43 p.m. of the same day and was charged with the apparent death of his mother, whom friends and neighbors say was living with Paul Hancock and his girlfriend, to whom he was planning to propose marriage.

Minton says that through observations of the crime scenes and talking to the son and the girlfriend, police were able to successfully conclude that Paul Hancock played a role in what they believe is his mother's death.

Hancock is being held in Collin County Jail with bail set at \$50,000. Police said he was already facing federal time for pornography charges.

No body has been recovered as of Monday afternoon, and the investigation is still on going. Authorities say that Ellen Hancock was last seen wearing a sleeveless blue vest with flower print, no blouse underneath and black slacks. Her shoulder length hair was pulled back into a ponytail.

Police have seized Paul Hancock's 2003, dark blue Chevrolet 510 that may have been used in the disposal of Ellen Hancock's body, if indeed she is dead. Investigation revealed that a large black trash bag may have been used to remove her body from the apartment.

Detectives urge citizens that if they have seen the above described vehicle between Friday night and 6 a.m. Saturday, to contact them immediately via the Plano Police Department tip line, 972-941-2148.

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