



**Phoenix Police Department**  
**Public Affairs Bureau**  
620 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85003



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# MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Date/Time:** March 26, 2026, around 9:30 p.m.  
**Incident:** 2026-419857  
**Location:** 2400 East Van Buren Street  
**Victim:** Derek Standridge, 44-year-old, deceased  
**Suspect:** Charlie Exodus Carldwell, 26-year-old, MCSO booking #G245935

## Homicide Investigation

On March 28, 2026, a Phoenix Police officer obtained credible information indicating that the homicide of an adult male had occurred in the area of 24th Street and Van Buren Street. After the homicide, the victim was placed in the trunk of a vehicle and driven away from the scene. As officers gathered intelligence and attempted to verify the information, the vehicle believed to be involved was located in the area of 25th Street and Adams Street. Upon contacting the vehicle, officers located the victim, 44-year-old Derek Standridge, in the trunk. He was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The Phoenix Police Department's Homicide Unit responded and assumed the investigation. The original crime scene was located and processed. Detectives pursued multiple leads and determined that the homicide occurred in a hotel room near 24th Street and Van Buren Street on March 26, 2026. Detectives also identified the suspect as 26-year-old Charlie Carldwell.

On April 1, 2026, Carldwell was located and arrested without incident. After being interviewed, he was booked on multiple charges related to this investigation, including murder.

At this time, investigators do not believe additional suspects are involved. This remains an active investigation, and further details will be released as they become available.

*Sergeant Rob Scherer*  
*Public Affairs Bureau*