



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



MEDIA ADVISORY

Date/Time: January 18, 2026, around 5:14 p.m.
Incident: 2026-82577
Incident: 2026-83768
Location: 2900 W. Bell Road
Victim: Sam Ertebati, 41-year-old man, deceased
Suspect: Celestina Ertebati, 42-year-old woman, deceased

UPDATE: January 19, 2026

This advisory is being updated to confirm the suspect name as Celestina.

Murder Suicide Leaves Man and Woman Dead

(January 19, 2026) Phoenix Police detectives are investigating a suspected murder suicide that left two adults, 42-year-old Sam Ertebati and 41-year-old Celestina Ertebati, dead.

On January 18, 2026, at around 5:14 p.m., officers responded to a call reporting unknown trouble near 2900 W. Bell Road. While enroute, they were advised that a man and woman had been found unresponsive inside a home with a gun nearby. The Phoenix Fire Department personnel arrived and pronounced both Celestina and Sam deceased at the scene.

Homicide detectives responded to conduct a thorough investigation and speak with witnesses. They learned that Celestina and Sam were married and lived at the home. Two Children were there but became worried when their parents were sleeping late so they called a family member. That family member came over and found the couple inside their bedroom. Preliminary information indicate that Celestina shot Sam, before turning the gun on herself. No one else was hurt during this incident. Circumstances leading up to the shooting are still under investigation.

Sergeant Jen Zak
Public Affairs Bureau