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PRESS RELEASE

Edwardsville— A Madison County Grand Jury indicted two Granite City men today in connection with the December 2011 death of Anthony Burkey who died as a result of suffocation while security guards at Gateway Regional Medical Center in Granite City restrained him.

Charles J. Knapp (d.o.b. 5/26/83) and Dylan K. Ritchie (9/19/90) were both charged with one count of Involuntary Manslaughter, a Class 3 felony. Burkey, 42, was brought to the Center by police from Pontoon Beach after punching a door at a neighbor's home while appearing to be suffering from some sort of psychotic episode. Due to his behavior, he was placed in a room and was waiting a psychological evaluation. Security guards were eventually called into his room due to some behavioral issues and during the struggle, he was held down, facing the ground, where the guards kept him pinned to the ground and he eventually stopped breathing. Burkey's official cause of death was compression asphyxia due to physical restraint.

Video cameras located in the room recorded the struggle and were presented as evidence to the grand jurors in reviewing the case for possible charges. The indictment alleges that Knapp and Ritchie caused the death of Burkey by applying force to his chest, head and neck, pinning him to the ground and preventing him from breathing.

Bonds for both men were set at \$25,000. They are not in custody at this time but are expected to turn themselves in to police. Maximum penalty for a Class 3 felony is 2-5 years in prison. The Granite City police department handled the investigation into Ritchie and Knapp's actions.

These charges, as well as the statements made herein, are based upon probable cause. The defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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