

Traumatic head wound leads investigators to suspect murder

By LARRY PHILLIPS

• Leader & Times

A 51-year-old man was found badly beaten at a rural house in northwest Seward County Saturday night, according to Seward County Undersheriff Gene Ward, and the man later died at a Wichita Hospital.

“Saturday, Aug. 17, at approximately 8:30 p.m., deputies responded to rural Seward County to assist Seward County Medical Services for a call of an unresponsive male,” Ward said earlier today. “Upon arrival, they observed a male who had bruising, and the deputies suspected foul play.”

Deputies then notified the Kansas Bureau of Investigation’s criminal investigations who obtained a search warrant of the residence.

“The KBI crime scene unit was called to assist the investigation, and they are following up on the case,” Ward said.

The man was identified as Thomas Miller, 51, of Garden City, according to Ward.

## **Man dies from beating**

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Ward added Miller was flown to a Wichita hospital where he later died from his injuries.

“The official report we have said the victim was from Garden,” Ward reiterated.

“Nobody is under arrest, but we are interviewing people,” Ward said, adding the case is being worked as a homicide.

A posting on Facebook by the victim’s daughter claimed Miller was severely beaten.

“My dad was found unconscious (with) his head bashed in...,” she noted. “We don’t know who found him or who did this to him, but it was murder.”

An autopsy was scheduled for 9 this morning, and authorities were awaiting the report.

Anyone with information about the case should call the Sheriff’s office at 309-2000.