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Kent County death now ruled as homicide

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COURTLAND TOWNSHIP - A home in a quiet rural area houses a mystery. It is where Renee Pagel lived, and died.

Lt. Roger Parent asked, "Could this be a random act or was she targeted for unknown reasons? That we are still investigating."

Authorities are revealing little about Pagel's murder but court papers show the 41 year old mother of three was going through a divorce.

A registered nurse and teacher at Kent Intermediate School District, colleagues considered her family.

Ron Koehler spoke on behalf of KISD, "When circumstances are other than natural causes it always makes it more difficult to cope with.

Detectives say Pagel was killed sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning. Sheriff's deputies were called to the home on the 9000 block of 13 Mile Road NE on Saturday evening. When they arrived on scene, they found the woman dead.

Neighbors say squad cars and crime scene vehicles were at the house from Saturday afternoon, until Sunday morning.


Police say an arrest is not imminent and information is needed to solve this case.

Lt. Parent said, "Until the investigation continues with more interviews and they start to narrow down the scope of the investigation, I don't think we want to put fear in the neighborhood but be cautious everyone should be cautious.

The Kent County Sheriff's Office is asking that anyone who may have observed suspicious activity in the area call the sheriff's office at 616-632-6100 or Silent Observer at 616-774-2345.

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