

# Charges Filed

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Authorities at first were stymied on the case by a lack of clues but Douglas said many hours were spent "piecing little bits of information together." Douglas said. "It was a very difficult case. I'm very pleased with the sheriff's office with the way deputies conducted the case."

Douglas singled out several deputies, praised the assistance of the Saline County sheriff's office and Police Inspector Robert Butcher.

Douglas declined to elaborate on the results of the questioning of Kennedy, saying only that "he was very cooperative."

Douglas said Kennedy became a chief suspect in the case, which baffled authorities for nearly three weeks, about three days ago. Douglas and sheriff's deputies said several Crete residents were questioned and "hundreds of manhours" were spent on the investigation.

Kennedy, a bachelor, was born in Crete and attended school there until his graduation, according to a family member. He worked principally as a construction worker but was also employed as a bartender and cook. He was unemployed and looking for work when he was arrested, Douglas said.

Among those who Douglas singled out as providing most of the work on the case were Sheriff Merle Karnopp, and Deputies Zieman, Christiansen, Mike Sweet, Paul Spahn, Jerry Long, Kenneth Jackson and Edwin Krimle.