

Man accused of brutal murder appears in court

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FORT COLLINS - The man accused of killing a 20-year-old woman made his first appearance in Larimer County District Court Monday afternoon.

Joseph Curl, 29, is being held at the Larimer County Detention Center.

Fort Collins Police arrested him one week ago for the murder of Linnea Dick.

Curl is accused of sexually assaulting and strangling Dick.

Her body was found by firefighters after investigators say two fires were set inside her home. One was set upstairs in the house, a second was in the basement.

Dick's body was found in her bedroom.

Curl is scheduled to be back in court on June 23.

Illinois records show Curl was sentenced in 1996 to 10 years in prison for escape and possession of a stolen vehicle. He appears to have been released in 1999.

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