Mesa County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Stan Hilkey

HEATHER S. BENJAMIN

Information & Communication Manager/PIO Direct Phone: (970) 244-3929 Cell Phone: (970) 986-0950 Heather.Benjamin@mesacounty.us

January 7, 2009 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ARREST MADE IN MURDER FOR HIRE

Inmate solicits murder for hire from jail

Mesa County, Colorado—Today a warrant was issued and served on jail inmate Robert Joseph Hakel (HAY-KELL), 66, of 1181 Lowell Court #5, Grand Junction, for two counts of criminal solicitation to commit first degree murder. Hakel has been in the Mesa County Detention Facility since March 2008 on various charges related to drug distribution, weapon offenses, and more.

Criminal solicitation to commit first degree murder, or murder for hire, is a class two felony in Colorado. Each charge, if convicted, could carry an 8 to 24 year sentence in prison.

A booking photo and arrest warrant with further details is attached.

###