

## Bend Cement Contractor Arrested in Murder Plot

*by Cheryl McDermott*

Oregon State Police detectives arrested a Bend-area cement contractor Monday for allegedly soliciting the murder of a Crook County customer who failed to pay for cement work.

Jonathan Fred Andrews, the 44-year old owner of Merkin Concrete, LLC was arrested by Oregon State Police (OSP) detectives November 13, said authorities.

Jonathan Fred Andrews, CC DA Photo Andrews was lodged in the Crook County Jail in Prineville for two counts each of attempting to commit aggravated murder, and solicitation to commit murder. Bail was set at \$200,000 with arraignment scheduled for Tuesday in Crook County Circuit Court.

According to an OSP news release, detectives from Bend, The Dalles, and Portland have been conducting an investigation for nearly two weeks related to information obtained that Andrews solicited two people to kill an individual who had not paid for a cement job.

Andrews is also wanted in Georgia on a probation violation warrant related to a conviction for robbery by intimidation, and OSP plans to be in contact with Georgia authorities on that matter.

Anyone with information regarding the case is asked to contact OSP Detective Andy McCool at 541.388.6213, ext. 207.

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