

Spiritualist accused over killing

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**PRESS
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A judge has set bail of 2.26 million US dollars (£1.38 million) for a British spiritual healer accused of killing a Las Vegas woman and stuffing her body in a rubbish bin.

Michael Lane, 37, is alleged to have hit 44-year-old Ginger Candela with a frying pan and strangled her after deciding during a meditation session that she should die, police documents show.

Originally from London, Lane - a motivational speaker who goes by the name of Chae Saville - appeared briefly in court on Wednesday to acknowledge that he understood the charges against him.

An evidence hearing session was set for January 11.

The accused was arrested on December 3 following the discovery days earlier of the victim's body stuffed in a bin in her garage in Las Vegas.

An arrest report released on Monday claims that Lane told officers he was compressing the victim's carotid arteries to help her achieve a deeper state of meditation when he decided to murder her. He then hit her with the pan before strangling her with an electrical cord, according to the report.

Police responding to a missing person's call on November 30 found Mrs Candela's house had been ransacked, with numerous items missing.

Authorities caught up with Lane a few days later in California.

Officers believe that he may have taken the victim's Chihuahua dog Gi Gi and given it to a random woman he met on the Las Vegas strip as he fled.

Detectives believe he may have befriended numerous women with the possible intention of defrauding them without their knowledge. He faces charges of murder and robbery with a deadly weapon, as well as one count of grand larceny auto in connection with Mrs Candela's death.

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