

TRANSIENT HELD IN SLAYINGS OF 2 GIRLS

By **Tribune News Services**

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A rail-riding transient has been charged with murdering two 13-year-old girls in Texas and Kentucky, authorities said Tuesday.

Tommy Lynn Sells, 35, was arrested Sunday in the stabbing death of Kaylene Harris, 13, and the slashing of 10-year-old Krystal Surlles, who survived.

The two girls were sleeping at the home of Kaylene's mother near Del Rio when Sells allegedly broke in Friday night and attacked them with a knife.

Krystal, who was in stable condition with severed vocal cords, helped authorities find Sells by writing a description of her attacker. Sells, an acquaintance of Kaylene's father, had visited the home several times, authorities said.

During questioning by investigators, Sells confessed to the slaying last May of Haley McHone, 13, of Lexington, Ky., police said.

Sells was charged Monday with murder, rape and kidnapping in her death.

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