

Monterey County 2022 CSAC Challenge Award Entry
Issue Area: Administration of Justice & Public Safety
Population: Suburban County Category

Monterey County – District Attorney CCTF (Cold Case Task Force)

OVERVIEW: Monterey County District Attorney CCTF (Cold Case Task Force), took on the largest and most comprehensive effort to identify, review, investigate, and prosecute unsolved homicide cases.

CHALLENGE: In the last 25 years, Monterey County has experienced over 553 unsolved homicides and maintained custody of 27 sets of unidentified human remains. Each homicide represents an aggrieved family and a murderer who has not faced justice for his crime. Each set of human remains represents a family left wondering what happened to its loved one. The passage of time has foreclosed investigative leads that do not involve forensic DNA technology. Recent breakthroughs in DNA technology have expanded the capability to extract and analyze DNA to identify suspects. We have selected multiple violent crime cold cases that would be eligible for specialized DNA testing that was never previously used to identify and prosecute suspects, where evidence is minimal and microscopic. The project's ultimate objective has been to use contemporary forensic DNA technology to identify and prosecute murderers and to help restore the names of unidentified persons in the coroner's office, which will ultimately decrease the overall number of violent crime cold cases in the community and hold some of the county's most violent and dangerous criminals accountable for their actions.

SOLUTION: The Task Force has created a proprietary database to identify, categorize, and examine unsolved cold cases throughout the county. The database is used to help identify cases most likely to be solved. The Task Force selects multiple cases per year where either suspect DNA has been identified or there is DNA evidence that can help identify previously unidentified remains. In July 2020 this inter-agency working group designed to assist local agencies with investigating, resolving, and prosecuting their unsolved homicide cases. The Task Force consists of seasoned homicide investigators and a prosecutor who collaborates with the original investigating agency to review cases, develop strategies, conduct interviews, do background research, and facilitate the submission or re-submission of items for potential DNA and other scientific testing.

INNOVATION: With funding from local agencies, county funding, and federal grant funding to help with all phases of DNA analysis and the relevant follow-up investigation, the Task Force has been able to pursue all leads available to successfully identify the offender(s) or decedents and to successfully prosecute the

cases, whenever possible. In the first year of the Task Force, members have reviewed approximately 100 of the murders in the county. Members of the Task Force have been actively reviewing the unsolved cases from all participating agencies to determine whether there is viable suspect DNA evidence. The Task Force has utilized all available technology and investigative efforts to locate and identify the suspect or decedent, including through familial DNA searching and genetic genealogy, through properly accredited private laboratories when necessary. Additionally, the Task Force ensures that all appropriate cases are entered into Federal databases that collect missing persons case information from across the country and finds links to solve them. The Task Force has submitted items for DNA testing on several cases to both the state Department of Justice Crime Laboratory and to private laboratories. In two cases, the DNA evidence has yielded a CODIS match to a potential suspect. In eight other cases, the initial DNA testing is ongoing, and additional testing or individual follow-up is necessary to yield an identification.

RESULTS: Since the formation of the Task Force, seven people have been arrested for homicides occurring between 1981 and 2018. In May 2022, the first of the seven defendants charged was convicted of first-degree murder. The victims included a five-year-old girl kidnapped and murdered while walking to school in Seaside in 1982, a mother found murdered in her Carmel home in 1981, a 22-year-old man ambushed and shot to death in Seaside in 1995, a father and local business owner fatally shot in Salinas in 1999, a 20-year-old man shot in King City in 2016 after being mistaken for a gang member, and a 31-year-old King City man murdered in front of his wife and children in 2017.

REPLICABILITY: The ability to replicate this project is only limited by time and funding, with the developed application to log and triage cases from multiple jurisdictions, and a comprehensive method of evaluating for the solvability and ability to prosecute. Replicating this task force model is also going to be shared in teaching and sharing the lessons learned through unsuccessful attempts and successful attempts to bring these types of cases to closure. Our members are all law enforcement instructors that have access at multiple levels of the justice system to ensure this methodology can benefit other counties across the state and nation through teaching. Sharing at conferences attended by law enforcement will also help replicate this successful Cold Case Task Force Model.

CONTACT:

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OPTIONAL SUBMISSIONS: Press releases



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

June 28, 2022

Contact: Matthew L'Heureux and John Roman, Deputy District Attorneys
Telephone: (831) 755-5267

SEASIDE MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR 1995 MURDER OF 22-YEAR-OLD MAN

People v. Anthony Martezz Randall, Case No. 21CR002989

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that the Honorable Rafael Vazquez sentenced 50-year-old Seaside resident Anthony Martezz Randall to 50 years to life in prison plus nine additional years. On May 23, a jury convicted Randall of the first-degree murder of Lloyd Perkins, Jr. and found true that he personally used a firearm.

On September 21, 1995, 22-year-old Perkins, known as "LJ," was found shot to death on Amador Avenue. Perkins had a child with a woman that Randall used to date and who had recently ended her relationship with Randall. One week before the murder, Randall forcibly entered the woman's house, beat her, and tried to rob Perkins at gunpoint. Evidence presented at trial showed that on the night of the murder, Randall argued on the phone with the woman, traveled to the apartment where Perkins and the woman were visiting friends, disabled the vehicle they had driven there, and waited in the darkness before ambushing, killing, and robbing Perkins.

In 2021, Seaside Police Department re-opened the investigation into Perkins' murder. The renewed investigation yielded new witnesses who provided additional information implicating Randall in the crime. Three witnesses testified at trial that they heard Randall admit to the murder.

After an 11-day jury trial, Randall was convicted of first-degree murder. The jury also found true an enhancement that he personally used a firearm in the commission of the crime. In a bifurcated proceeding, Judge Vazquez also found true that Randall had a prior serious and violent felony conviction for assault with a firearm from 1990, within the meaning of the Three Strikes Law.

The case was investigated by Seaside Police Detectives Joshua Parker and Gabriel Suarez, Seaside Police Acting Commander Matthew Doza, and District Attorney Investigators Rachel Maldonado,

Peter Austen, and Alicia Cox. Seaside Police Department Interim Chief Nicholas Borges also provided substantial support and resources.

This was the first case filed and prosecuted by the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force, which was established in 2020 to investigate, solve and prosecute cold-case homicides in Monterey County. Seaside Police Department has worked extensively with the Task Force to re-examine unsolved cases. Multiple other agencies within the county are also partnering with the Task Force on unsolved homicide cases. For more information, please visit <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/district-attorney/cold-case-task-force>.



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

January 24, 2022

Contact: Matthew L'Heureux, Deputy District Attorney
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MONTEREY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JEANNINE M. PACIONI RECEIVES A \$535,000 FEDERAL GRANT FOR HER COLD CASE TASK FORCE FOR USE OF DNA TECHNOLOGY IN VIOLENT CRIME INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS

SALINAS, California- District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force a \$535,000 grant for the use of DNA technology in cold-case investigations and prosecutions.

The grant which is one of seven awarded is titled "FY 2021 Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA," was funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program was designed to increase the capacity of state and local prosecution offices to address and close violent crime cold cases. The grant will provide funding to support forensic testing and investigative activities in the prosecution of cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified. Violent crime cold cases include homicides, forcible rapes, missing persons, or unidentified persons that have remained unsolved for at least three years and have the potential to be solved and/or prosecuted through the application of forensic techniques and/or technologies, or newly acquired information or advanced technologies to analyze evidence.

With the support of the grant, the Cold Case Task Force proposes to identify and actively investigate 45 violent-crime cold cases over the next three years where suspect DNA has been identified or where there is DNA evidence that could be used to identify previously unidentified human remains. The grant funding will enable the Task Force to hire an annuitant investigator to exclusively work on qualifying cold cases, as well as to pursue advanced DNA testing at accredited private laboratories.

In July 2020, District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni implemented the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force, an inter-agency working group designed to assist local agencies with investigating, resolving, and prosecuting their unsolved homicide cases. The Task Force consists of multiple veteran investigators and a deputy district attorney who collaborate with the original investigating agency to review cases, develop investigative strategies, conduct witness interviews, do background research, and facilitate the submission or re-submission of items for potential DNA and other scientific testing. With the support and assistance of the local chiefs of police, the Task Force has collaborated with eight local law-enforcement agencies on one or multiple unsolved cases. In its first year, we solved five cases and the Task Force has reviewed more than 30 different homicide cases occurring between 1974 and 2018. The District Attorney's Office has filed charges against six suspects for six cold-case homicides.

The Task Force will collaborate with detectives on any case upon the request of the investigating agency. The Task Force aims to increase inter-agency collaboration, combine the talents and expertise of multiple investigators to examine unresolved cases with fresh eyes, and to demonstrate to the citizens of Monterey County that these victims and their cases have not been forgotten despite the passage of time.

Further information on the Task Force is available at <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/district-attorney/cold-case-task-force>.

If you have information relating to an unsolved homicide, you may contact Chief Ryan McGuirk at McGuirkRJ@co.monterey.ca.us or Investigator Bill Clark at ClarkB@co.monterey.ca.us.

Award Number: 15PBJA-21-GG-004356-DNAX.

To view video: <https://www.facebook.com/montereyda>



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

August 25, 2021

Contact: Matthew L'Heureux, Deputy District Attorney
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FIVE SUSPECTS CHARGED WITH MURDER DURING FIRST YEAR OF MONTEREY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE COLD CASE TASK FORCE

SALINAS, California- The victims included a mother found murdered in her Carmel home in 1981, a 22-year-old man ambushed and shot to death in Seaside in 1995, a father and local business owner fatally shot in Salinas in 1999, a 20-year-old man shot in King City in 2016 after being mistaken for a gang member, and a 31-year-old King City man murdered in front of his wife and children in 2017. For years, their murders were unresolved. Within the past year, five people have been arrested and charged in relation to those crimes.

In July 2020, District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni implemented the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force, an inter-agency working group designed to assist local agencies with investigating, resolving, and prosecuting their unsolved homicide cases. The Task Force consists of multiple veteran investigators and a deputy district attorney. The Task Force collaborates with the original investigating agency to review cases, develop investigative strategies, conduct witness interviews, do background research, and facilitate the submission or re-submission of items for potential DNA and other scientific testing. With the support and assistance of the local chiefs of police, the Task Force has collaborated with eight local law-enforcement agencies on one or multiple unsolved cases. In the last year, the Task Force has reviewed more than 30 different homicide cases occurring between 1974 and 2018.

The Task Force will collaborate with detectives on any case upon the request of the investigating agency. The Task Force aims to increase inter-agency collaboration, combine the talents and expertise of multiple investigators to examine unresolved cases with fresh eyes, and to demonstrate to the citizens of Monterey County that these victims and their cases have not been forgotten despite the passage of time.

Since April 2021, the District Attorney's Office has filed murder charges in the following cases:

- The murder of 30-year-old Sonia Herok-Stone in Carmel on October 15, 1981;
- The murder of 22-year-old Lloyd “LJ” Perkins Jr. in Seaside on September 21, 1995;
- The murder of 39-year-old Elias Gutierrez Diaz in Salinas on November 19, 1999;
- The murder of 20-year-old Martin Heredia in King City on June 17, 2016;
- The murder of 31-year-old Hipolito Cruz Carreno in King City on March 4, 2017.

All of the charged suspects are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Court proceedings in all five cases are currently pending.

The Task Force has also worked with local agencies to select cases with potential forensic evidence that could be tested or re-tested to identify a potential suspect or suspects. Evidence from multiple cases is currently being tested at the California Department of Justice Crime Laboratory and other private laboratories.

Further information on the Task Force is available at

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/district-attorney/cold-case-task-force>.

If you have information relating to an unsolved homicide, you may contact Chief Ryan McGuirk at McGuirkRJ@co.monterey.ca.us or Investigator Bill Clark at ClarkB@co.monterey.ca.us.



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

July 8, 2021

Contact: Matthew L'Heureux, Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: (831) 755-5267

VISALIA MAN CHARGED WITH NOVEMBER 1999 COLD-CASE MURDER OF SALINAS CAR DEALERSHIP OWNER

People v. Jimmy Torres Rodriguez, Case No. 21CR005391

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Jimmy Torres Rodriguez, age 49 of Visalia, has been charged with the first-degree murder of Elias Gutierrez Diaz.

Diaz, age 39 at the time of his murder, was shot to death outside of his Salinas car dealership on November 19, 1999.

On July 7, 2021, Rodriguez was arrested by the Salinas Police Department. He is currently being held in the Monterey County Jail.

Rodriguez has been charged with one count of first-degree murder, with an enhancement that he personally discharged a firearm causing death. He is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Rodriguez will appear in court for arraignment on July 8.

Anyone who has information about the case is encouraged to contact Salinas Police Department Detective Ruben Sanchez.





JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

August 16, 2021

Contact: Matthew L'Heureux, Deputy District Attorney
Telephone: (831) 755-5267

SEASIDE MAN CHARGED WITH OCTOBER 1981 MURDER OF 30-YEAR-OLD CARMEL MOTHER

People v. Michael Scott Glazebrook, Case No. 21CR006403

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Michael Scott Glazebrook, age 65 of Seaside, has been charged with the first-degree murder of Sonia Carmen Herok-Stone, which occurred on October 15, 1981.

Herok-Stone, age 30 at the time of her murder, lived in Carmel with her four-year-old daughter. On October 15, 1981, she was found murdered in her home while her daughter was at school.

Glazebrook was previously charged with Herok-Stone's murder, but the case was dismissed in 1983 after a jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict. The case was reopened in 2020. The renewed investigation included forensic testing that was not available at the time of the original trial.

On August 14, 2021, the Monterey County Sheriff's Office arrested Glazebrook. He is currently in custody at the Monterey County Jail. Bail has been set at \$1 million.

The criminal complaint charges him with one count of first-degree murder, with a special allegation that he personally used a deadly weapon in the commission of the crime. He is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

His arraignment is scheduled for this afternoon.

Anyone who has information about the case is encouraged to contact Detective Arras Wilson at 831-755-7203 or Detective Sergeant Bryan Hoskins at 831-755-3773.



JEANNINE M. PACIONI
District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

July 7, 2022

Contact: Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney
Telephone: (831) 755-5470

NEVADA MAN CHARGED WITH JANUARY 1982 MURDER OF FIVE-YEAR-OLD ANNE PHAM IN SEASIDE

People v. Robert John Lanoue, Court Docket No. 22CR005951

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Robert John Lanoue, age 70 of Reno, Nevada, has been charged with the January 1982 murder of five-year-old Anne Pham of Seaside. Pham disappeared while walking to her kindergarten class at Highland Elementary School on January 21, 1982. She was never seen alive again. On January 23, 1982, her remains were discovered on the former Fort Ord.

The initial investigation did not result in any arrests, and Pham's murder went unsolved for more than 40 years. In 2020, investigators with the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force worked collaboratively with Seaside Police Department to reopen Pham's case and submit items of evidence from the case for DNA testing. A new type of DNA testing not previously available to earlier investigators identified Lanoue as the suspect in Pham's murder. Lanoue was 29 years old at the time of the homicide and lived in Seaside.

On July 6, 2022, investigators obtained a warrant for Lanoue's arrest. Lanoue is currently being held in custody in the state of Nevada pending his extradition to California. Astrea Forensics, Dr. Ed Green of UC Santa Cruz, Parabon NanoLabs, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division, the Nevada State Police Division of Parole and Probation and the Regional Sex Offender Notification Unit provided valuable assistance to the Cold Case Task Force during the investigation.

Lanoue is charged with one count of first-degree murder, with special circumstance allegations that he murdered Pham while committing kidnapping and a lewd act on a child under the age of 14. Lanoue is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

In January 2022, the Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force received a \$535,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant, titled "FY 2021 Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA," provides funding to support forensic testing and investigative activities in the prosecution of cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified. Funding from the U.S. Department of Justice grant enabled the Cold Case Task Force to seek justice in Pham's case.

The Monterey County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force was established in 2020 to investigate, solve and prosecute cold-case homicides in Monterey County. Since the Cold Case Task Force was founded, five people have been arrested and charged with six different homicides throughout Monterey County occurring between 1981 and 2017. In May 2022, Anthony Randall was convicted by a jury of murdering Lloyd Perkins, Jr. in Seaside on September 21, 1995. Seaside Police Department has worked extensively with the Task Force to re-examine its unsolved cases.

Multiple other agencies within the county are also partnering with the Task Force on unresolved homicide cases. For more information, please visit <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/district-attorney/cold-case-task-force>.

Anyone who has information about Pham's case is encouraged to contact DA Investigator Justin Bell at 831-755-5070.