

Blue Mountain County Sheriff's Office

Cold Case Division – Investigative Report

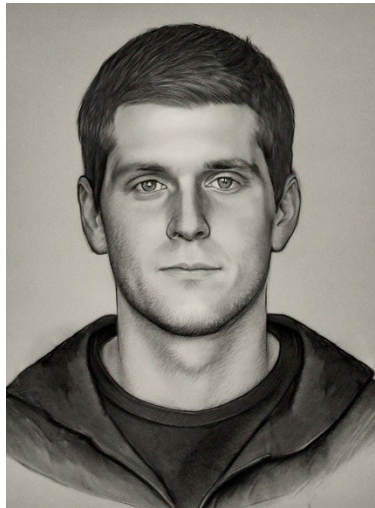
Case Number: FA-19-074	Incident Type: Homicide (Cold Case)
Date of Incident: May 3, 1990	Incident Address: Blue Mountain Hiking Trail, OR
Victim: Jessica Black (DOB: 03/21/1960)	Victim Address: 527 Wheaton Place, Blue Mountain, OR 97000

I am a detective assigned to the cold case unit. On 8/12/23, I reviewed this case and learned that the investigation had been suspended in 1991 after all viable leads were exhausted. I determined there were several items of evidence that should be sent to the crime lab for DNA testing. Since this crime occurred in 1990, no DNA testing was previously attempted.

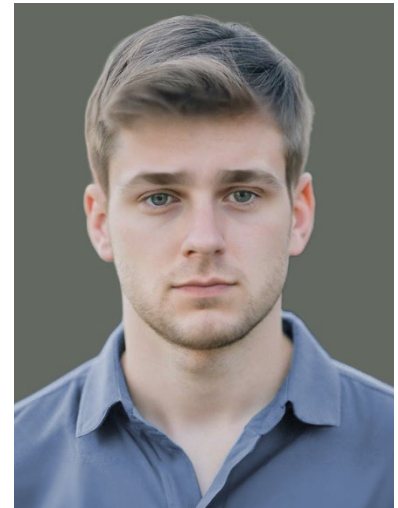
On 8/13/23, I submitted a request for laboratory examination (RFLE) to the Blue Mountain Crime Laboratory. I requested that several pieces of the victim's clothing (Items 4 and 8), along with the oral/anal/vaginal swabs (Items 10-12) and nail scrapings (Items 13-14) be evaluated for DNA testing. The victim's blood spot card (Item 15) was submitted as a reference. According to the original investigation, the twine found around the victim's neck was identified as a type carried at most hardware stores, including the store where the victim's boyfriend worked in 1990. I also requested that the piece of twine (Item 9) be tested for DNA.

I found a note in the original file about a suspicious white male seen lurking around the trailhead in the days leading up to the murder. Also located in the original case file was a composite drawing of a white male. It appears that the man may have been Kurt Sinclair, a 21-year-old grounds keeper who worked for the local parks department.

I could not find any information in the file to indicate Sinclair was ever contacted during the original investigation.



Composite sketch



Kurt Sinclair (DOB: 06/26/1968)

The complete, updated evidence inventory list is appended to this report.

Detective Annika Greenberg #127	Date of Report: August 14, 2023
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