

DNA Evidence and Crime-Solving

“DNA Spurs Bust in 1999 Rape,” *Daily News* (New York) October 14, 2005.

36-year-old Lee Calvin was arrested yesterday for the rape and assault of a 15-year-old girl in 1999. Calvin was linked to the crime by two retired police officers who were part of a special unit directed by the district attorney’s office to review unsolved crimes. The investigators compared DNA evidence from the crime to the state’s DNA database and matched it to Calvin, an ex-convict.

“2003 attack linked to California crimes,” *Chicago Tribune* October 15, 2005.

DNA taken from an attempted sexual assault in Arlington Heights in 2003, matches DNA evidence from a series of rapes in San Diego. Investigators from both cities are working closely to apprehend the suspect.

“Estranged wife called hero in '87 murder case,” *San Antonio Express-News* October 15, 2005.

The murder of Graciela Castillo remained unsolved for 18 years with no suspects, until Rosa Sandoval, the estranged wife of an abusive husband spoke up. Rosa Sandoval believed that her husband, Rolando Gutierrez Sandoval, had been involved in the murder. Investigators collected DNA from Rosa Sandoval’s children to compare with DNA evidence from the murder. In 2005, testing revealed that the person involved in the murder had a 99.9 percent chance of being the biological father of Rosa’s children. Rolando Gutierrez Sandoval was immediately charged with the woman’s death.

“DNA traps rapist,” *The Advertiser* October 11, 2005.

Due to new DNA evidence, Robert Shane Lowick, 37, pleaded guilty to nine counts of rape that occurred at Largs Bay and Adelaide from 1989 to 1991.

“DNA Leads to Arrest in Rapes, Police Say,” *The Boston Globe* October 13, 2005.

Police have charged Kevin Bennett, 33, with two counts of kidnapping, two counts of rape and assault with intent to murder. Bennett was connected to the rapes through DNA evidence collected from the victims and matched through the DNA database where Bennett’s DNA was on file due to his extensive criminal record.

“South Side Man Guilty In 2003 Stabbing Death; He faces 15 years to life in slaying after West Side bar fight,” *Columbus Dispatch* (Ohio) October 12, 2005.

Jon M. Hillyer, 27, was found guilty of murder after his DNA was found on the murder weapon and on his clothing.

“Inmate Charged With Rapes in 2002 and 2003,” *Tampa Tribune* (Florida) October 13, 2005.

Investigators have revealed that DNA evidence from a 2002 rape of a female jogger matched DNA left on a bike near the scene of the rape, DNA that implicated Kenneth Evans Griffith, 32, a prison inmate.

“Man pleads not guilty in '89 killing,” *The San Diego Union-Tribune* October 14, 2005.

James Roger Webb, 52, has pleaded not guilty in the 1989 murder of Timothy Cowan. The case was solved, 16 years later, when DNA testing concluded that Cowan’s blood was found in Webb’s car.

“Man held in sex assault on Wellington teenager DNA led to the arrest of a family friend in the case in the small town north of Fort Collins.” *The Denver Post* October 14, 2005.

24-year-old Benjamin William Vivian has been charged with sexual assault on a 14-year-old girl. Investigators gathered DNA samples from three suspects and one sample pointed to Vivian.

“Son Released in Slaying of Mother,” *The Washington Post* October 14, 2005.

Mark K. Makki, 23, is charged with his murder of his mother on October 6. Preliminary DNA tests, however, do not link him to the crime, and he has been released from jail. Makki is still charged with the first-degree murder of his mother

“Evidence links 4 to massacre in Deltona, lab reports show,” *Orlando Sentinel* (Florida) October 15, 2005.

DNA from blood found at the home where the accused ringleader of the Deltona massacre was arrested, link the man, Troy Victorino, to the killings of six people in 2004.

“Law & Order; St. Ann; DNA is used to link rape suspect to burglary,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (Missouri) October 13, 2005.

Investigators used DNA from two sexual attacks to identify and charge 20-year-old Scott Henley with the rape of a 69-year-old woman.

“Police say serial rapist attacked Denver teen Suspect linked to nine sex assaults since November,” *The Denver Post* October 16, 2005

The man who assaulted a teenager in a residential neighborhood last week, is the serial rapist who has raped at least 9 women in the area within the last year. The serial rapist faces charges as “John Doe.”

DNA Current Events

October 10-16, 2005

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Controversies Concerning DNA Databanks and Laboratories

“Final analysis damns forensic science centre,” *The Courier Mail* (Queensland, Australia) October 12, 2005.

An investigation into the management and conditions at Brisbane’s John Tonge Centre, has revealed that there is a DNA case backlog that will require millions of dollars and over a year to fix. The leading science center will be renovated for a cost of \$6.3 million this year.

DNA Database Funding and Backlog

“Award to boost DNA crime lab; the grant is targeted toward 500 unsolved burglaries that may help crack other crimes,” *The Denver Post* October 14, 2005.

The National Institute of Justice has awarded a grant of \$418,000 to the Denver Police Department to fund an 18-month project to look into 500 unsolved burglary cases. The grant will finance cutting edge DNA and forensic equipment and will add a prosecutor to work on cold cases.

DNA Evidence and Sentencing

“A Guilty Verdict for Serial Killer Murdered 2 Prostitutes, Assaulted 1,” *Daily News* (New York) October 13, 2005.

Lee Van Glahn, 46, was convicted of the rape and murder of two prostitutes and the attempted rape of a third. Van Glahn was connected to the crimes through DNA found in tissue from behind the teeth of one of the victims.

“Man found guilty of 1986 murder, sentenced to life,” *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* October 13, 2005.

Based largely on DNA evidence, 50-year-old Richard Hambrick was convicted and sentenced to life in prison for the murder and rape of Clydine Dallas in 1986.