

County of Sacramento

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NEWS RELEASE

Forensic Artist's Sketch of Unidentified Dead Man Released

Coroner asks for public's help to solve 20 year-old cold case

Assignment Editors: We appreciate your help publicizing the sketch and case summary in order to find someone with information regarding the identity of this man.

Sacramento, CA -- The Sacramento County Coroner's Office is seeking help from the public to identify a man found dead on September 1, 1989. He had been shot and his body dumped next to Sheldon Road, west of Bradshaw in Sacramento. Efforts to identify him through traditional forensics over the years did not lead to a positive identification. Barbara Anderson, a certified forensic artist with an expertise in facial reconstruction, recently completed a sketch from a photograph of the man. Anderson's work resulted in the positive identification of another man in 2006.

Sacramento County Coroner Greg Wyatt hopes that someone will recognize the decedent from the sketch and provide information that will assist his office in confirming the man's identity. "Our most important responsibility is identifying the deceased and notifying the next of kin. We have had success in similar cases in the past and we are hoping for the same in this case. Given the man's unique characteristics and the circumstances surrounding his death, we believe someone may have the information we need," said Wyatt.

Case summary: The man was found by a passing motorist on September 1, 1989. He had been shot and his body dumped in a ditch on Sheldon Road, west of Bradshaw. He was wrapped in a tan comforter decorated with pictures of jungle cats. The decedent was wearing a red long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans, and off-white cowboy-style boots. He carried a rake-style comb in his left-front jeans pocket. A business card from Cal Worthington Chevrolet was found on his body. He was approximately 25 - 35 years of age, 6' tall, 178 lbs., brown eyes, dark-brown curly hair, sideburns and a thin mustache and beard. The forensic artist believes he may have been Hispanic. He had gold caps on his lateral upper incisors and a 14" healed scar on his left lower leg. He wore a gold wedding ring. Fingerprints and dental x-rays are on file.

Anyone with information about the identity of this man is encouraged to call the Sacramento County Coroner's Office at 874-9320. For details about 67 other Sacramento County Coroner's unidentified cases, go to www.saccounty.net/coroner.

For more information, contact Ed Smith, Assistant Coroner, at 874-9254 or 838-1209 (cell); or Kim Burson, Assistant Coroner, at 874-1698 or 591-0370 (cell).



Sacramento County Coroner case #89-2668 Forensic artist's sketch