

Judge's Top 12 Review Sheet**1. Fake News Story Proven Wrong****1. Location of Crime**

1. Brooklyn, NY

2. Type of Crime

1. Rape

3. Year of Crime

1. 1994

4. Year of Hit

1. 2017

5. Database

1. NY State

6. Brief Summary

1. A woman was raped in broad daylight. She immediately reported it to the police and a rape kit was obtained, but she was not believed and her rape kit was not tested until early 2000s due to a rape kit backlog. No DNA evidence was revealed. In 2017, it was retested using new tech, and a profile was obtained and matched to a career criminal, James Weber.

7. Full Facts

1. In April 1994, a woman was carrying her groceries home through Brooklyn, NY's Prospect Park. She was dragged off the path and raped in broad daylight by a stranger. Although she immediately reported the attack to officers patrolling the area and went to the hospital where a sexual assault kit was performed, the police were disinclined to believe her account. The press reports by a leading tabloid columnist featured such headlines as "Rape Hoax the Real Crime" and insinuated she might soon be arrested for false reporting of a crime. The victim, who happened to be black, lesbian and a social activist, was quoted shortly afterward as saying "I have had the misfortune of being raped twice – once in the park and again in the media." She filed a libel suit against the reporter and his newspaper, with her lawyer contending that the columnist changed, ignored or created facts such as describing the location of the crime (which he'd never been to) and disregarded lab and hospital test results (which he'd never seen). A judge dismissed her suit before it got to trial, citing that the reporter was entitled to First Amendment protection in spite of his erroneous information sources.
2. By the early 2000s, New York City was a backlog-testing pioneer in working its way through the city's untested sexual assault kits; there were over 16,000 of them. Jane Doe's cardboard box of evidence was sent out for testing in its turn, for the swabs contained to be screened for male DNA and development of a profile for the growing CODIS system. Unfortunately, no profile was able to be determined for Jane Doe's rapist, and the case remained cold.
3. A playwright captured the media uproar in a production which starred Tom Hanks as the reporter in a 2013 Broadway play entitled "Lucky Guy," which was nominated for several awards and won three. The reporter by that time had died of cancer, as had the playwright.

4. A 2017 request by a cold case detective landed the cardboard box in the New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner's Department of Forensic Biology, for testing of the non-swab items. The backlog project of a decade and a half earlier had not included clothing items, so the jogging shorts, which were presumptively positive for semen (P30 protein), were processed for a differential extraction. A 22-locus profile was entered into the CODIS database and the next state-level search delivered a match to offender James Webb, a career criminal who by 2017 was serving a 75-years-to-life sentence for five other sex crimes in New York State's infamous Sing Sing Prison. No trial for Jane Doe's case is possible—the statute of limitations has long since run (that law has since changed and there is no longer a time limit for rape cases in NY).
8. *Investigative Importance*
 1. 23 years between crime and DNA hit. Linked to James Edward Webb, who was a serial rapist serving 75 years at Sing Sing. DNA techniques at the time meant that the mixing of the suspect's DNA with the victim's would not yield profile. High profile rape case that generated controversy and even \$12 million libel suit.
9. *Notes and Additional Submitter Details*
 1. "This story has been cited in not only local media, but also non-New York publications both in the US and abroad, signifying its global significance and relevance to "Seeking Answers, Solving Crime." Registrants for HIDS Rome 2018 should find the saga interesting, relevant, and timely." - Noelle Umback
 2. NYPD had some doubts about whether her story was legit at time because of lack of physical evidence and the appearance of physical evidence. Daily News columnist Mike McAlary penned a piece calling into question the story even more, believing she was trying to drum up support for a rally sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. NYPD department chief at the time was accused of leaking info to this columnist, McAlary.
10. *Articles*
 1. <https://wtop.com/national/2018/01/police-official-sorry-for-helping-discredit-1994-rape-victim/>
 1. Apology from NYPD.
 2. <http://brooklyn.news12.com/story/37269736/advocates-for-rape-survivors-demand-better-investigations>
 1. Brooklyn local cable news video; rally at Prospect Park in January of this year after the story broke
 3. <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/mcalary-news-cleared-libel-case-article-1.756932>
 4. <http://www.nydailynews.com/archives/news/news-mcalary-dead-cancer-pulitzer-winning-columnist-41-article-1.813279>
 1. More on McAlary
 5. <http://gaycitynews.nyc/dna-vindicates-lesbian-rape-victim-smear-daily-news/>
 1. Support from LBGTQ community, and photos of the area in the park.
 6. https://www.washingtonpost.com/amhtml/opinions/dna-vindication-and-the-damage-done/2018/01/20/4574609e-fbc6-11e7-8f66-2df0b94bb98a_story.html&freshcontent=1

1. Story picked up in a Washington Post editorial
7. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5251865/Police-say-theyve-cracked-rape-case-columnist-deemed-hoax.html>
1. And abroad, in the UK.
8. <https://nypost.com/2018/01/09/cops-crack-infamous-prospect-park-rape-case-with-dna/>
9. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/jan/09/new-york-city-police-solve-1994-case-that-newspaper-called-a-hoax>
10. The original column from MCAlary: "Rape hoax the real crime," New York Daily News, 8/28/1994



2. The Sniper

1. Location of Crime

1. Budva, Montenegro

2. Type of Crime

1. Murder

3. Year of Crime

1. 2015

4. Year of Hit

1. 2017

5. Database

1. Austria

6. Brief Summary

1. [European Gangs involved] A man was murdered by a lone sniper while standing in front of his restaurant. Police determined location of sniper by using bullet entry wounds and tracing the trajectory. They found spent bullet casings at the suspected sniper position, and swabbed the area for DNA. Amazingly, they recovered a profile, which led to a match on the Austrian database in 2017 with a Bosnian citizen arrested for suspected drug trafficking.

7. Full Facts

1. "On 27th of October 2015, G. Dj. was murdered in front of his restaurant at the waterfront promenade near the Old Town of Budva, Montenegro, by a straight shot from a sniper rifle.
2. Budva is a Montenegrin town on the Adriatic coast. It is the metropolis of Montenegrin tourism and it is country's most visited destination but unfortunately the city with the highest murder rate in Montenegro. Budva's best feature and attraction is the Old Town. Nearby is the entry to the town walls with the view across the rooftops and down on the gardens. Police investigation discovered that G.Dj. was shot from a sniper rifle from the embrasure at the walls of the Old Town. It is a position from which the murderer had a clear view on the restaurant of G.Dj. Police investigators determined the precise location where the shooter was positioned when he fired a shot that killed G.Dj. It was a third attempt on his life and at that moment he was in the company of his close friends, bodyguards and under close surveillance by the Montenegrin police. G.Dj. was shot after he received phone call and stepped away from the table in the open garden of the restaurant and went to the promenade. After two attempts on his life, G.Dj. was afraid for his family's wellbeing so he relocated his family from Montenegro. He was under police surveillance. He also had his own security guard but that didn't prevent his death.
3. Police investigators found leftovers of the burned scooter in the bay which is assumed that was used by the murderer. Police found out that the murderer had entered illegally in Montenegro through water channels. The murderer used the same way to leave the country. Swabs for DNA analysis were collected from the embrasure at the walls of the Old Town where the shooter was positioned when he fired a shot that killed G.Dj. Also swabs for DNA analysis were collected from 3 gun shells that were found nearby. This samples for DNA analysis are considered challenging for obtaining DNA results. DNA profile of unknown male was found from these samples.

- Obtained DNA profile was compared with DNA profiles from Montenegrin DNA database but match wasn't found. Search was run through Interpol. Cold hit occurred in Austria's database two years after the murder, in September 2017, when a Bosnian citizen was arrested on suspicion of drug trafficking during investigation by the Federal Criminal Police Office (BK) and the State Criminal Police Office Styria(LKA). A close cooperation between Austrian and Montenegrin police contributed to successfully solving this case. The suspect is currently in custody and awaiting extradition to Montenegrin police and judicial authorities.
(<https://translate.google.me/translate?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://www.bundeskriminalamt.at/news.aspx%3Fid%3D31596B766E733563416F773D&prev=search>)
4. According to the operative information of the investigators, G. Dj. was also the target on 17th of April 2015 when his close friend S. M. was assassinated in his vehicle on the way home. Just before that he was in the company of G. Dj. in his restaurant. After a police investigation was conducted, it was assumed that S.M. was not the actual target of the liquidation and that the murderer has mistaken him for G. Dj. who frequently used the car of the assassinated S. M. The investigation revealed that, since the beginning of 2015, G. Dj. has spent several nights at the house of S. M. All businesses and contacts of the deceased S. M. were checked and the investigation could not point out any motives that would make S. M. the target. Therefore, it was assumed, that his liquidation was the consequence of the mistaken identity. According to the information from the newspaper "Vijesti" (<http://www.vijesti.me/tv/durickovic-znao-sta-mu-se-sprema-881438>), in the official statement given to the police on 18th of April 2015, G. Dj. stated that there is a possibility that S. M. was murdered because of him and that this was the most logical reason but he didn't provide any explanation to his claims. G. Dj. was aware of the fact that his name was used in the connection to the events in Valencia but he couldn't connect S. M. with that events.
 5. On May 2015 police arrested G. M. F. and A. M. in Budva and prevented a second liquidation attempt on G. Dj. In his statement to the police, G. M. F. said that he and A. M. were hired for liquidation of G. Dj. According to the official court statement, they were prosecuted under the charges of creating criminal organisation with the goal of conducting criminal activities of illegal production, possession and distribution of drugs and criminal activity of murder with the motive of making a profit from international drugs smuggling operations. They were sentenced with five years in jail for G. M. F. from Johannesburg and six years in jail for A. M. (<http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/ferarisu-i-markovicu-ukupno-11-godina-zatvora-917442>; <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Hronika&clanak=530153&datum=2016-01-27>).
 6. On October 2016 R.Dj., brother of G.Dj. , was murdered. According to the police investigation, motive of murder R.Dj. was the same as the motive of murder G.Dj. They were marked as responsible for stealing cocaine shipment worth dozens of millions of dollars from the port of Valencia. (<http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Hronika&clanak=568098&datum=2016-10-12>) DNA analysis were crucial in solving murder of R.Dj. with cold hit from Montenegrin DNA database. Murders of G.Dj. and R.Dj. were the part of series of

professional liquidations and bomb attacks in a bloody clash between two confronted criminal groups that spread all over the Balkans. The liquidations were conducted in the same pattern including the same MO of burning of the vehicles and weapons used in the liquidations or using bombs/explosive that usually leave no traces Scientific Importance

7. Recovered DNA from the walls of a shooter's position

8. *Investigative Importance*

1. Euro criminal gangs involving drugs trafficking and cocaine.

9. *Article Links*

1. <https://translate.google.me/translate?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://steiermark.orf.at/news/stories/2864515/&prev=search>
2. <https://translate.google.me/translate?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://www.oe24.at/oesterreich/chronik/steiermark/Drogendealer-entpuppte-sich-als-Auftragskiller/298244507&prev=search>
3. <http://www.kleinezeitung.at/steiermark/5281003/Nach-Festnahme-in-der-Steiermark-Steirischer-DNATreffer-fuehrt-zu>
4. <https://translate.google.me/translate?hl=en&sl=de&u=http://www.bundeskriminalamt.at/news.aspx%3Fid%3D31596B766E733563416F773D&prev=search>
5. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/budva-ubijen-ugostitelj-goran-durickovic-857689>
6. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/durickovic-ubijen-snajperom-sa-kule-starog-grad-857717>
7. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/istraga-o-likvidaciji-durickovica-ko-je-pomogao-ubici-sa-kule-857893>
8. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/ubistvo-durickovica-snajperista-morem-utekao-do-trstena-858241>
9. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/neki-budvani-da-se-cuvaju-snajperista-vrebao-sa-zidina-starog-grad-868481>
10. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/sta-pise-u-optuznici-kotoranin-je-voda-crnogorske-mafije-i-narucuje-ubistva-871983>
11. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/ferarisu-pet-markovicu-sest-godina-zbog-planiranja-ubistva-gorana-durickovica-892627>
12. <http://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/godina-od-ubista-gorana-durickovica-ko-je-snajperista-iz-starog-grad-909165>
13. <http://www.kurir.rs/crna-hronika/1995983/ubistvo-gorana-durickovica-u-budvipizonov-zet-likvidiran-zbog-300-kila-kokaina>
14. <https://www.cdm.me/hronika/budva-ubijen-ugostitelj-goran-durickovic/>
15. <http://www.novosti.rs/vesti/planeta.300.html:573954-U-Budvi-ubijen-Goran-Djurickovic>
16. <http://www.prelistaj.me/2015/10/29/ubistvo-gorana-durickovica-hronika-najavljene-smrti/>
17. <http://www.prelistaj.me/2016/06/09/da-li-je-narko-mafija-nadjacala-drzavu-kotor-naliniji-vatre/>
18. <https://www.srbijadanas.com/vesti/hronika/ko-je-ko-u-crnogorskom-klanu-zemunci-su-za-njih-decija-predstava-2016-10-20>
19. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Vijest%20dana&datum=2016-08-12&clanak=559792>

20. <http://m.portalanalitika.me/clanak/267149/hronologija-sukoba-skaljarskog-i-kavackog-klana>
21. <http://m.portalanalitika.me/clanak/270274/u-ratu-klanova-13-zrtava>
22. <https://www.cdm.me/english/budva-goran-djurickovic-murdered/>
23. <https://www.cdm.me/english/sniper-from-the-walls-of-the-old-town-of-budva-killed-durickovic/>
24. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Vijest%20dana&datum=2017-05-28&clanak=600324>
25. <http://www.telegraf.rs/vesti/jugosfera/2918134-rat-skaljarskog-i-kavackog-klana-odneo-je-24-zivota-sinoc-je-metak-dobio-telohranitelj-prve-zrtve-od-koje-je-sve-pocelo-u-beogradu-foto-video>
26. http://monitor.co.me/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6403:ubistvo-gorana-urikovia-hronika-najavljene-smrti&catid=4410:broj-1306&Itemid=5737
27. <http://www.rtcg.me/vijesti/hronika/177183/banjalučanin-osumnjicen-za-ubistvo-djurickovica.html>
28. <http://portalanalitika.me/clanak/279757/banjalučanin-osumnjicen-za-ubistvo-gorana-durickovica>
29. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Vijest%20dana&clanak=613896&datum=2017-09-07>
30. <http://crna.gora.me/vijesti/hronika/rasvijetlila-ubistvo-gorana-djurickovica/>
31. <https://antenam.net/drustvo/49675-djurickovic>
32. <http://mondo.me/a630275/Info/Hronika/Bec-nece-izruciti-osumnjicenog-za-ubistvo-u-Budvi.html>
33. <https://fosmedia.me/infos/hronika/policija-rasvijetlila-ubistvo-durickovica-jedno-lice-liseno-slobode>
34. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Hronika&clanak=629971&datum=2018-01-08&najdatum=2018-01-08>
35. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Hronika&clanak=629468&datum=2018-01-01>
36. <http://www.dan.co.me/?nivo=3&rubrika=Hronika&clanak=615046&datum=2017-09-16&najdatum=2017-09-16>

3. Lisa Ziegert

1. Location of Crime

1. MA, USA

2. Type of Crime

1. Rape and Murder

3. Year of Crime

1. 1992

4. Year of Hit

1. 2017

5. Database

1. This does not appear to be traditional cold hit match in a database. However, a SnapShot report was generated, which led police retrieving DNA from the likely suspect from his personal items in his house. This led to a match with the individual profile obtained in the case.

6. Brief Summary

1. A man killed Lisa Ziegert in 1992. DNA evidence was removed from the crime scene, but a match was never found. In 2016, the case was reassigned to a new detective, who undertook a new strategy. He published a privately produced SnapShot report, which showed the likeliest physical appearance of the suspect. This generated massive community interest, which eventually led the killer, a life long community resident, to confess to the killings in a letter to a friend, and to flee a court ordered DNA sample taking. The friend brought the letter to police, which eventually found and arrested him.
 2. Has not been convicted yet. Active trial.
7. Full Facts
1. Lisa Ziegert was a 24-year-old assistant teacher at Agawam Middle School when she was abducted from her second job at Brittany's Card and Gift Shoppe on April 15, 1992. Four days later, on Easter Sunday, Lisa's body was found in a secluded, wooded area. She had been raped, stabbed, and murdered.
 2. Over the next 25 years, a joint investigation was conducted by Massachusetts State Police, Agawam Police, and the FBI. Numerous forensic testing procedures and analyses were performed on recovered evidence, and a single source male DNA profile was developed from evidence left on the victim's body. That DNA profile was recurrently run against state, national, and international CODIS databases. Detectives exhausted hundreds of leads and obtained voluntary DNA samples from over 300 people. To further expand the investigators' scientific reach, a Y-STR DNA profile was developed and used to search for family members and relatives. No match was found.
 3. In 2016, the case was assigned to a new Massachusetts State Police detective, and a new strategy was developed. Investigators contracted with Parabon NanoLabs, a DNA technology company located in Virginia (USA), to produce a Snapshot DNA Phenotyping Report, which developed statistical predictions and a forensic sketch of the suspect's physical appearance. The report was released to the public. This generated renewed interest in the case and raised awareness of the scientific power of the DNA evidence, resulting in over 170 tips. The Snapshot report results were then used by investigators to prioritize outstanding persons of interest.
 4. Over the next twelve months, investigators eliminated over 100 more suspects. Throughout the investigation, over 90% of those approached by police voluntarily submitted their DNA for elimination. However, a small number of people refused to cooperate. To address this problem, detectives obtained alternative standards and located family members for Y-STR and mitochondrial testing. These steps eliminated many of the refusals, but some remained.
 5. Detectives and prosecutors decided to use an investigative legal strategy to obtain court orders to compel DNA samples from the remaining refusal suspects. In September of 2017, armed with notice from the court, troopers went to notify the refusal suspects about the legal process to obtain their DNA.
 6. One of these refusal subjects was Gary Schara, a lifelong resident of the area where the murder occurred. Schara had been questioned previously over the course of the investigation, and he had refused to provide his DNA. When detectives arrived at his residence to serve notice from the court, he was not home, and a message was relayed to him that police were looking for him with official paperwork. The next day

someone close to Schara contacted police and provided documents hand-written by Schara in which he admitted to the abduction, rape, and murder of Lisa Ziegert. He wrote that he believed police had a warrant for his DNA, and once his DNA was obtained it would put him in jail for life. Then he fled.

7. Investigators began searching for Schara, and a search warrant was executed at his residence. Knives, swords, handcuffs, and evidence of violent pornography were seized. Schara's toothbrush was seized, analyzed, and DNA thereon was found to match the profile obtained in this case. Police tracked Schara to a Connecticut medical facility and discovered he had attempted suicide. He was arrested, extradited to Massachusetts, and charged with murder.
8. In this case, the DNA hit led to the arrest of Lisa Ziegert's killer. However, it was the suspect's awareness of the power of DNA evidence that makes this case unique. Schara knew that police had a DNA sample from Lisa's killer. For years he refused to give his DNA, and when he thought that police were coming with legal authority to take it, he panicked. As Schara wrote in his own words, "That will be a warrant to take DNA & that will send me away for life." This case demonstrates the powerful effect that public awareness of advances in DNA technology can have on cold case investigations.
9. Lisa's death had a deep impact on the community where she was killed. The brutality of the crime, innocence of the victim, and anonymity of the killer caused many innocent people to alter their lives out of fear. This arrest, accomplished in large part due to advances in DNA technology, has helped the Ziegert family and the community to begin to heal after 25 years.
8. *Scientific Importance*
 1. Phenotyping, which led to facial composite, which led to reexamination of prior leads and eventual DNA comparison
9. *Investigative Importance*
 1. 25 years of waiting; lots of local media/community attention
10. *Notes*
 1. Investigators got a search warrant and collected the suspect's DNA from items found at his home. The sample was sent out for comparison against the DNA of Lisa Ziegert's killer.
11. *Article Links*
 1. <https://crimewatchdaily.com/2017/10/23/lisa-ziegert-case-how-technology-caught-up-with-cold-case-rape-murder-suspect-25-years-later/>
 2. http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2017/09/who_is_gary_schara_accused_in_lisa_ziegert_case.html

4. The Murder Mobile

1. *Location of Crime*
 1. New Britain, CT
2. *Type of Crime*
 1. Murder and Sexual Assault
3. *Year of Crime*
 1. 2003
4. *Year of Hit*
 1. 2015

5. Database

1. CODIS

6. Brief Summary

1. The remains of murder victims were uncovered by hunters in the ground, and also in the suspect's van after one of the suspect's cell mates told authorities about a "Murder Mobile." DNA evidence taken from the crime scene and from family DNA from the suspects, allowed police to match the suspect to the murders.

7. Full Facts

1. William Devlin Howell was arrested in September of 2015 for the 2003 murders of five women and one man after authorities discovered their bones buried in separate plots in the woods behind a shopping mall off Hartford Road in New Britain, CT.
2. Three women were sexually assaulted. Some bodies were mutilated, others were strangled. One woman was beaten in the face with a hammer.
3. The evidence came from two locations, a burial site and the suspect's van. A hunter came across the partial skeletons of three victims in 2007 and the remains of others were discovered in April 2015 during one of several searches by authorities. Within the suspect's van were biological stains and hairs belonging to each of the victims. A combination of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA was used in the analysis of over 200 separate pieces of evidence. In previous years, family members had submitted reference samples to the CT Division of Scientific Services which were entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) to be utilized in the identification of their missing loved ones. Using the DNA elucidated from the crime scene evidence and employing CODIS, the laboratory was able to identify the victims' remains found at the shopping mall woods, as well as identify the victims' DNA inside the suspect's vehicle where the crime occurred.
4. Already incarcerated for the murder of one woman in 2003, Mr. Howell pled guilty to murdering these six additional victims on September 8, 2017. With a total of seven victims, he takes the title of CT's most prolific serial killer.

8. Investigative Importance

1. Believed to be the most prolific serial killer in Connecticut history

9. Notes

1. Killed his victims in a van he dubbed the Murder Mobile

10. Article Links

1. <http://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-william-devin-howell-appearance-20170908-story.html>
2. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5094541/Connecticut-serial-killer-William-Devin-Howell-gets-life.html>

5. **Lebanese Security Forces**

1. Location of Crime

1. Lebanon

2. Type of Crime

1. Kidnapping, held hostage by ISIS, killed/decapitated

3. Year of Crime

1. Unknown

4. Year of Hit

1. 2016

5. Database

1. Unknown

6. Brief Summary

1. Lebanese Security forces find the remains of 5 bodies in a cave in the mountains. They originally suspected they were captured soldiers, but DNA analysis revealed they were in fact closely related. It was concluded that they were actually fleeing Syrians from a small Syrian village where people often share very similar genes due to small village size.

7. Full Facts

1. In December 2016, the Lebanese General Security services carried out a mission on the northeastern Lebanese-Syrian border next to the Lebanese town of Arsal and found unidentified skeletal remains in a cave of a mountainous area. All victims had suffered decapitation. In total, four bodies and four severed heads were found. The discovery prompted speculation that the remains belonged to four Lebanese Army soldiers held hostage by ISIS since August 2014 when the town of Arsal was briefly invaded. Given that the General Security was leading the negotiations for the soldiers' release, the agency took the bodies for investigation and delivered samples to our laboratory without prior anthropological investigations.
2. DNA profiles were obtained from at least one tooth of each head and a femoral bone from each body. The first unusual finding was that three profiles matched between three heads and three bodies respectively, whereas a fourth profile was obtained from a head without its body, and a fifth profile from a body without its head. It was concluded that the number of victims wasn't four but five.
3. These DNA profiles tested negative in kinship studies with parents of the missing servicemen and confirmed that the bodies didn't belong to any of the kidnapped soldiers. However, this posed a new question – whom did the bodies belong to?
4. Since the onset of the Syrian war in 2011, thousands of Syrians have been reported missing. Data collection has been impossible due to ongoing fighting, chaos and population displacement. Families of missing persons have therefore to endure the suffering of waiting for information, often to no avail. These factors made identifying these bodies even more challenging.
5. Fortunately, the results of a separate ongoing research project at our laboratory ultimately helped unveil the victims' identities within three weeks of profile determination. In brief, the research aimed at evaluating the kinship statistical uncertainties due to endogamous and consanguineous marriages, which are frequent practices in Lebanon and Syria, especially within geographically secluded religious minorities. The study included a large dataset from several villages and covered all Lebanese regions and religious communities. Research results showed that inhabitants of a given village with social/geographical seclusion showed genetic relatedness and positive sibship tests among socially unrelated individuals.
6. In reference to these findings, we tried sibship statistical assessment among the five unidentified victims and surprisingly found that all victims were genetically related. This led to the conclusion that the victims couldn't have originated from distinct areas; consequently, they couldn't have been soldiers, or passers kidnapped at ISIS checkpoints, but rather victims of a raid into a particular area/village.

7. Accordingly, the search was oriented to a large area around the northeastern Lebanese-Syrian border. This included the Syrian village of Maaloula which is inhabited by the Christian minority in Syria and from which several inhabitants were kidnapped in September 2013. The DNA profiles of all five victims amazingly, tested positive in kinship studies with parents of missing persons in Maaloula.
8. On April 25, 2017, the bodies were returned to their respective families.
8. Scientific Importance
 1. "Evaluation of sibling-ship analysis in secluded Lebanese villages with increased endogamous mating patterns" - how an isolated village and the power of kinship studies allowed the identification of these bodies
9. Investigative Importance
 1. The investigative component seems to be part of a university-led study (American University of Science and Tech)
10. Article Links
 1. <http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2017/Jun-02/408087-university-study-identifies-bodies-on-lebanese-border.ashx#.WTav9YkgVnd.facebook>
 2. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-41065305>

6. Arizona Canal Bikers

1. Location of Crime
 1. Arizona Canal, Northwest Phoenix, Arizona
2. Type of Crime
 1. Sexual Assault and Murder
3. Year of Crime
 1. 1990 and 1992
4. Year of Hit
 1. 2015
5. Database
 1. Maricopa County and CODIS
6. Brief Summary
 1. Two woman went biking along the Phoenix Canal. Along the way, they were attacked, killed, mutilated, and sexually assaulted. DNA profiles taken from crime scene got no matches with CODIS. A genealogist was hired 20 years later to compare the Y-Filer profile of the unknown killer to Y-STR profiles available on public genealogy websites. A match was found associated with a surname Miller. A Bryan Patrick Miller appeared earlier in investigators lists as a potential lead, but because he was not on database there was no hit. Police stalked him and got his DNA from a discarded drinking glass used by Miller. Match.
7. Full Facts
 1. Biking along the Arizona Canal in northwest Phoenix was a popular past-time for many in the early 1990s. However, news of two gruesome murders that occurred along these same canals caused bikers to begin traveling in pairs or not at all.
 2. On the evening of November 8, 1992, 22-year-old Angela Brosso left home for her evening bike ride on the Phoenix canal, never to return. The next morning Angela's decapitated body, riddled with multiple stab wounds and sexually assaulted, was found 100 feet from the bike path. Twelve days later her severed head was found floating in the canal. The condition of Angela's head led investigators to believe the

- killer may have placed it in a refrigerator or ice chest as a “trophy” before discarding it.
3. On the evening of September 21, 1993, 17-year-old Melanie Bernas left home on her last bike ride. Melanie’s body was found the next morning floating in the canal about a mile from where Angela had been found. Melanie, stabbed numerous times and an obvious victim of sexual assault, was now dressed in a body suit taken to the murder scene by the killer. Forensic evidence collected from the victims resulted linked back to the same unknown killer. The DNA profile was loaded into CODIS but no matches were found.
 4. More than 20 years passed and the cases remained unsolved.
 5. Investigators from the Phoenix Police Department hired a forensic genealogist to compare the Y-Filer profile of the unknown killer to Y-STR profiles available on public genealogy websites. Y-DNA is co-inherited with the family name along the male line of the family, a match to a genealogical profile could produce the surname of the killer.
 6. Using proprietary software, the Y-Filer profile found on the victims uniquely matched with Y-STR profiles associated with the surname “Miller”. Bryan Patrick Miller’s name appeared earlier on an investigator’s list as a potential lead. But because Miller’s DNA was not in CODIS or any other data bank, police employed a ruse to collect a DNA sample from a drinking glass discarded by Miller.
 7. On January 13, 2015, Miller’s DNA was found to match to the DNA profile developed from the victims in the original investigation. The Phoenix PD moved quickly to arrest him. The police continue to investigate possible links between Miller and other unsolved homicides. Two surviving victims have stepped forward and also identified Brian Patrick Miller as their assailant. The Maricopa County Attorney’s Office is seeking justice for the victims and the Phoenix community by prosecuting Brian Patrick Miller for these crimes; the trial is set to begin in April.
 8. *Scientific Importance*
 1. Y-STR and Private Genealogy Website
 9. *Investigative Importance*
 1. Stalked suspect to get DNA from drinking glass since not on DNA database
 10. *Article Links*
 1. <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2016/11/30/how-forensic-genealogy-led-arrest-phoenix-canal-killer-case-bryan-patrick-miller-dna/94565410/>
 2. <https://www.ranker.com/list/canal-killer-facts/amandasedlakhevener>

7. Guatemalan Genocide

1. *Type of Crime*
 1. Genocide
2. *Year of Crime*
 1. 1983
3. *Year of Hit*
 1. 2014 and 2016
4. *Database*
 1. FAFG
5. *Brief Summary*

1. This is a case where skeletal remains of Guatemalan genocide victims were linked by DNA to their actual identities, after a Death Squad Diary (Diario Militar) was recovered showing the names of victims.

6. Full Facts

1. During Guatemala's internal armed conflict (1960 – 1996), an amount of 200,000 civilians killed and 40,000 victims of forced disappearance is estimated. Civilians were apprehended by state security forces, interrogated, tortured, executed, and their bodies discarded in remote sites or buried in mass graves.
2. Available information has been uncovered either by accident or through unauthorized disclosures. Among these unauthorized disclosures is a death squad diary—known as the Diario Militar. This diary, released in 1999, is the only known document of its kind and reveals the fate of 183 purported political opponents of the former regime, who were “disappeared” during the mid-1980s. Their names, photos, alleged affiliations, and final destination are detailed.
3. Few of the remains from the disappeared have ever been found. In 2008, the Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala (FAFG) conducted an investigation analyzing the records of people buried as “XX” (unknown identity) from one of the city's cemeteries: La Verbena. They concluded that at least 889 bodies from this cemetery belong to disappeared. Between 2010 and 2013, FAFG worked at this cemetery recovering more than 18,000 bodies. Out of those, 2,000 are currently being compared in FAFG's DNA database against approximately 15,000 samples of family members.
4. A DNA hit in November 2014, matched a skeleton with the family of José Zenón Hernández Cusanero (Number 112 in the diary) who disappeared in 1983, when he left his community San Martín Jilotepeque, Chimaltenango, towards Guatemala City and never heard of him again.
5. According to the diary, his pseudonym was “Marco Antonio” and was a member of EGP, a fraction of the guerrilla. It details that on April 1984 he tried to escape, and received three gun shots. It also details “300 in site”, a code decoded as executed or dead.
6. This was the first DNA hit matching a body from la Verbena with someone described in the diary, confirming the theory that some of the disappeared ended up in this cemetery.
7. Another DNA hit in January 2016, matched a skeleton with the family of Juan Estuardo Orozco López (number 2 in the diary), a 29 year old electrical engineer that disappeared on August 1983 in Guatemala City, his family never heard of him again.
8. The log establishes that he used the pseudonym “Miguel and Marin”, was a supposed member of the ORPA, another fraction of the guerrilla, and was beaten down when resisting detention.
9. Thirty years after their disappearance and 15 years after the publication of the logbook, the information on the diary has been confirmed with these two DNA matches. So far, nine persons appearing on the Military Diary have been identified; an astonishing development in a case that symbolizes the impunity and injustice that persist in Guatemala.
10. A human rights demand was presented in 2005 to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights by the families of 26 of the victims in the logbook. In 2012, this court

found the state of Guatemala responsible of the forced disappearances alleged, violating the rights of the victims and their families.

7. Article Links

1. <https://unredacted.com/2016/12/13/new-identification-of-guatemalas-disappeared/>

8. Terrill Gills

1. Location of Crime

1. NY, USA

2. Type of Crime

1. Armed Robbery

3. Year of Crime

1. 2015

4. Year of Hit

1. 2015?

5. Database

1. NY State

6. Brief Summary

1. A man robbed at knife point three Dunkin Doughnuts stores. Police get a DNA match with a one Terrell Gills. But video and eye witness show that the robber was 200lb, 6ft, whereas Terrell is 5'6, 120lbs. Terrell was nonetheless arrested and incarcerated awaiting trial for 18 months. One the eve of the trial prosecutors informed the defense that a one Mr. Waldon had been arrested for and pled guilty to two of the robberies.

7. Full Facts

1. TERRELL GILLS was charged with robbing a Dunkin Donuts at knife point. A videotape shows the robber jumped over the counter and took money out of the register. On his way over the counter, he knocked over a touch screen monitor with his hand. The part of the touch screen register where the robber was seen touching was swabbed for DNA testing. The lab determined there was a major contributor in a 3 or more person mixture of DNA.
2. The major contributor profile matched TERRELL GILLS' DNA profile in the State's Convicted Offender Data bank. TERRELL GILLS was arrested based on this cold-hit DNA match. The cashier described the robber as a 200 lb, 6 ft man. TERRELL GILLS stands 5'6 and weighs 120 lb. A line-up identification procedure was not done by the police.
3. The defense team found news articles reporting a "string" of robberies at Dunkin Donuts – all within 2 miles of each other and occurring in the same week. The media stated the police were searching for a single "Dunkin Donuts Bandit" responsible for all three robberies. The video surveillance tapes show the perpetrator was the same person in each robbery (same height/build; same sneakers; same distinctive maroon/yellow baseball cap in robbery #3 and our robbery; same modus operandi).
4. On the eve of trial, the prosecutor informed the defense that another person, Mr. Waldon, had in fact been arrested and pled guilty to two of the three Dunkin Donuts robberies. Mr. Waldon is serving 9 years in prison. Mr. Waldon was connected to robbery #1 by a palm print and connected to robbery #3 by blood evidence (Mr. Waldon cut himself). Mr. Waldon is 6 ft tall and weighs 200 pounds. The lab compared Mr. Waldon'S DNA to the touch screen monitor. However, Mr. Waldon was excluded as a contributor.

5. At trial, the jury saw that TERRELL GILLS' alleles were fairly common across all population groups. The electropherogram of the touch screen register showed a locus with only one allele. If there are at least three people's DNA on the touch screen register, then this necessarily means that allele sharing/stacking is taking place in this sample.
6. The Dunkin Donuts establishment is opened 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is located in the heart of Queens County, near various subway lines, and frequented by many people throughout the day. The police did not obtain elimination samples from the employees who use the touch screen register.
7. Given how common TERRELL GILLS' alleles are across all population groups, and considering the volume of people that came into the Dunkin Donuts, a reasonable conclusion is that Mr. Gills' alleles was artificially elevated due to allele sharing/stacking.
8. It is puzzling how TERRELL GILLS' DNA ended up on the part of the touch screen that the robber had been seen touching, but it is crystal clear that he was NOT the robber. It is also ironic that Mr. Waldon's DNA (the real robber) was not detected in the touch screen register sample. Although given the 2-3 second contact between Mr. Waldon's hand and the touch screen register, it is not completely surprising, however.
9. TERRELL GILLS was a customer at the Dunkin Donuts (exact dates unknown) – perhaps his DNA got on the screen when he was talking over the register when he placed his order. The cashier and other employees would use the same wet rag with sanitizer water between surfaces (table, counter, touch screen). Sanitizer, unlike bleach, breaks down cell walls, and leaves the DNA inside the nucleus intact. Perhaps, DNA of many people is being spread by the same wet rag and could explain why TERRELL GILLS' DNA may have ended up on the touch screen without him ever touching it.
10. This case cautions the sole reliance of the DNA evidence in a criminal case when it is in direct contravention of other evidence such as videos and witness statements. Here, the video shows the robber was not TERRELL GILLS. The robbery victim describes the robber as a man who did not fit TERRELL GILLS' physical description. Yet, the case went to trial. An innocent man was charged for a crime he did not commit and was incarcerated for 18 months, awaiting trial. The jury carefully analyzed all the evidence and reached the right verdict. But for the video showing the great disparity between our client and the true robber (there was 6 inch height & 80 pound difference), the jury may have convicted our innocent client. This case serves a reminder that DNA evidence, like any other evidence, must be critically analyzed. DNA evidence is not infallible and a person's DNA can indeed falsely place them at the scene of a crime, as it did in this case.

8. Article Links

1. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/16/nyregion/can-dna-evidence-be-too-convincing-an-acquitted-man-thinks-so.html>

9. Heather Hoffman

1. Location of Crime

1. Colorado

2. Type of Crime

1. Sexual Assault and Murder by Drowning

3. Year of Crime

1. 2017

4. Year of Hit

1. 2017

5. Database

1. CODIS/NDIS

6. Brief Summary

1. A woman's body was found dead floating in a river. Police recovered evidence from her body, including sexual assault evidence. Lab analyst worked over the weekend and recovered a DNA profile from anal swabs. A rush search was submitted to CODIS/NDIS, and Kentucky responded with a match. CO police were able to track the suspect down in town and arrested him.

7. Full Facts

1. On Wednesday June 21, 2017, Fort Collins Police Department responded to a report of a body floating in the Sheldon Lake at City Park in idyllic Fort Collins, Colorado. Sheldon Lake is surrounded by a beautiful older neighborhood with large trees and well-manicured lawns, and is a favorite spot for picnics and family games. A murder in this area was nearly unthinkable. In fact, it later came to light that a group of young men geocaching in the area of Sheldon Lake had seen Hoffman's body floating in the lake earlier in the day, but thought it was a mannequin.
2. The body was recovered and the deceased was identified as 23-year-old Heather "Helena" Hoffman, a young single mother of a four-year-old daughter. Heather had disappeared while walking home from work at a local McDonald's after her shift ended at 1:00 am early on Wednesday morning, 17 hours before her body was discovered, 14 hours of which were in Sheldon Lake. When police first recovered her clothed body, they were uncertain whether a crime had been committed or if Helena had suffered a medical event or even committed suicide. During her autopsy, it was determined that her cause of death was drowning; however, the multiple injuries on her body alerted police to the distinct possibility of a homicide.
3. On Saturday, June 24, evidence collected from the victim was submitted to the Northern Colorado Regional Forensic Laboratory (NCRFL) in Greeley, a partner of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Forensic Services (CBIFS). Due to the public safety risk, Fort Collins Police Department requested rush testing. A dedicated DNA Analyst began processing the DNA evidence as her highest priority that Saturday morning.
4. On Monday, June 26, the DNA Analyst issued her findings in a report: An unknown male DNA profile was obtained from the sperm fraction of the victim's vaginal and anal swabs using Life Technologies' newest STR kit, Globalfiler. Additionally, the DNA Analyst obtained the same unknown male YSTR profile in the sperm fraction of the victim's vaginal and anal swabs as well as a swab of the victim's right neck bruise using Life Technologies' newest YSTR kit, Yfiler Plus. Later on that same day, the DNA profile from the sperm fraction of the anal swabs was entered into CODIS, and the profile was searched immediately in Colorado's DNA database with no hits. The scheduled national level autosearch at NDIS would take place later that night but due to the public safety risk, the decision was made to contact the FBI to request a keyboard search of the National Database. The FBI conducted the search

- and a hit to a convicted offender in Kentucky was received! The Kentucky State Police's state DNA database was contacted and a rush confirmation was requested.
5. On Tuesday June 27, while awaiting the confirmation from Kentucky, DNA standards from 11 persons of interest were submitted to the NCRFL for comparison to the unknown DNA profile obtained from Helena's body. By the end of the day, the DNA Analyst issued her finding in a report, eliminating all of the 11 persons of interest. This was just before the lead detective was set to meet with Helena's distraught parents, and the fact that all currently-known suspects had just been eliminated was concerning and upsetting. Since the match had not yet been verified, the detective wasn't even aware that a CODIS hit had occurred.
 6. On Wednesday June 28, the Kentucky State Police provided identifying information to convicted sex offender Jeff Etheridge.
 7. Jeffrey Etheridge's criminal history began in Kentucky in 2008 with a misdemeanor assault charge and a 30 day jail sentence. In 2009 he was found guilty of marijuana possession and traffic violations, resulting in a 30-day jail sentence and 2 years probation. In 2010, he violated the terms of his probation due to receiving stolen property, a felony conviction and was sentenced to 1 year in prison. In 2011, Mr. Etheridge was convicted of felony possession of matter portraying sexual performance by a minor and was sentenced to 5 years of prison and required to register as a sex offender. It was this offender sample that was placed in the Kentucky DNA database and responsible for the match. In 2015, he was released from prison and was convicted in Tennessee of marijuana possession. In 2016, Mr. Etheridge was charged with failure to register as a sex offender – 1st offense, a misdemeanor and sentenced to 12 days in jail. He was arrested but never charged with retail petty theft in Florida in late 2016. He first registered as a sex offender on May 8th, 2017 in Colorado. Colorado law does not allow collection of DNA from registered sex offenders moving into our state and Mr. Etheridge's address was listed as transient.
 8. Later that evening, Fort Collins Police Department Fugitive Unit was able to locate Jeff Etheridge in Fort Collins and he was taken into custody. Etheridge was charged with second-degree kidnapping, sexual assault, tampering with a deceased human body, and first-degree murder.
 9. In the subsequent interviews, it was later learned that at the time that Helena Hoffman was clocking out at her job at McDonald's, Jeff Etheridge was being kicked out of a party only blocks away from Hoffman's workplace. This crime appears to be a random act of violence by a complete stranger.
 10. In January 2018, Etheridge pleaded guilty to the first-degree murder charge in an effort to avoid the death penalty and the other charges were dropped. On February 26, 2018, Mr. Etheridge was sentenced to life in prison without parole. During his sentencing, Judge Gregory Lammons described this crime as "one of the most horrific crimes ever committed in this community." The "overwhelming" evidence presented at the sentencing hearing included DNA on the body of Hoffman as well as 14 cell phone videos in which Etheridge had recorded himself committing the crime and where he bragged about his repeated brutal sexual assaults of Hoffman while he was perpetrating them, according to Deputy District Attorney Cara Boxberger. Over the three hours he was brutalizing Helena, Etheridge repeatedly held her head under

water each time she began to regain consciousness. At the time of his arrest, Etheridge was looking at the videos on his phone.

11. This case was a “cold hit” for the state of Colorado and the investigating agency did not have any other investigative leads at the time of the hit. The Colorado Bureau of Investigation Forensic Services (CBIFS) is thankful to the dedicated DNA Analyst for her quick turnaround time and willingness to work over a weekend, the FBI staff that conducted the nationwide search of offender DNA profiles, and the Kentucky State Police DNA database for their quick turnaround of the name of the perpetrator. Additionally, CBI Forensic Services is proud that this was the first successful NDIS keyboard search hit that the Bureau had conducted.
12. The value of the National DNA Index System and it’s interstate operability should not be minimized when states have different laws pertaining to when collection of buccal swabs by sex offenders occur, if at all. In this case, Mr. Etheridge arrived in Colorado and registered as a sex offender as required by law; however, our state law does not require him to submit a buccal swab and therefore never identified by our state search on Monday. But thanks to the far-reaching, expansive vision and design of NDIS, the searching of other states’ databases supersedes individual state laws and we were able to overcome that handicap. In the end, justice was served and our mission was fulfilled.

8. Investigative Importance

1. Lab analyst worked over the weekend to get the match

9. Article Links

1. <http://denver.cbslocal.com/2017/07/07/jeffrey-etheridge-helena-hoffman-fort-collins/>
2. <https://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2018/01/08/breaking-fort-collins-city-park-homicide-suspect-pleads-guilty-murder/1013017001/>
3. <https://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2017/11/08/investigators-city-park-homicide-suspect-identified-dna-evidence/841473001/>

10. Melanie Road

1. Location of Crime

1. Bath, Somerset, UK

2. Type of Crime

1. Rape and Murder

3. Year of Crime

1. 1984

4. Year of Hit

1. 2015

5. Database

1. UK National Database, Familial Hit

6. Brief Summary

1. Woman raped and murdered. DNA profile was developed from evidence a few years AFTER crime when DNA tech became available. Loaded onto national database, with no hit. Fast forward to 2014, a woman's DNA was loaded onto database for domestic violence incident. This happened to be killer's daughter. In 2015, familial DNA testing for Melanie's murder was re-run and a match was found with killer's daughter. Killer voluntarily provided DNA swab, and match confirmed.

7. Full Facts

1. In 1984 Melanie Road (17yrs) was attacked on her way home from a night out in Bath. She was sexually assaulted and stabbed 26 times. Her killer was never identified. There were a number of reviews over the years which resulted in a full DNA profile being loaded onto the NDNADB. When the FSS closed the case was transferred to Cellmark . In 2011 they commenced the first familial run with the cold case team. In 2013 they did another familial run applying the new geographical parameters that were possible. We also commenced a mass swab and elimination program. In this Cellmark were exceptionally helpful, they discussed best practice, best value for money and also assisted in securing samples from abroad.
2. In 2015 we requested a new familial run and it was through this that we secured a match. The daughter of Christopher Hampton had been arrested in November 2014 and a DNA sample loaded. As soon as we received the new list we knew it was a good possibility because whilst there were no likelihood ratios on this list Hampton was higher than our previous \"screamer\".
3. It proved to be a match and Hampton was arrested.
4. Cellmark continued to work tirelessly on all DNA upgrading it to DNA17 to ensure we had the strongest possible case.
5. Hampton denied the offense until day one of trial when he pleaded guilty.
6. The impact for Melanies family as well as National police services & forensic providers was immense and we are all eternally grateful 31yrs post offense.
8. *Investigative Importance*
 1. Familial hit of killer's daughter
9. *Investigative Importance*
 1. Meticulous blood swabbing in 1984 allowed DNA profile to be created when DNA tech arrived in mid 90s, and eventually a familial hit in 2014 and 2015.
10. *Article Links*
 1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/melanie-road-murder-how-dna-collected-in-1984-solved-the-32-year-old-case-with-christopher-hampton-a7022056.html>

11. Author Turned Murderer

1. *Location of Crime*
 1. Huzhou, China
2. *Type of Crime*
 1. Murder
3. *Year of Crime*
 1. 1995
4. *Year of Hit*
 1. 2017
5. *Database*
 1. China
6. *Brief Summary*
 1. A well known writer was linked to murders by using familial matching from mass swabbing.
7. *Full Facts*
 1. Murder became famous writer while being handcuffed

2. Murder became famous writer while being handcuffed In 1995, 4 people were murdered in an inn in Huzhou, Zhejiang Province, East China. Victims were owner of the inn, his wife, 13 years old grandson and a guest. Police discovered several cigarette butts from the scene, from which they derived suspects' DNA in 2017.
3. After compared with DNA databases cross China and calculated mutation rates and haplotype frequencies, Police identified a family with matching ratio 92.31%, which lived in a town 250 km away from the crime scene. There are more than 200 members to 6 branches affiliated to this family. A familial searching on Y chromosome was conducted immediately.
4. The first round of sampling covered 18 members, with 1 sample matched 94.87%; and second round with 5 people, 1 sample matched 97.44%.
5. To avoid any Y chromosome outflows due to long history of the family in this area, Police conducted a survey covering 2000 people around the town, and 500 DNA samples, among which, 14 people matched 97.44%, and 10 matched 94.87%. Based on matching ratios, Police identified the family. DNA samples of all male members didn't match. Police went to transmigrated members accordingly.
6. After 2 months of combing operations, testing more than 600 DNA samples, Police confirmed a well-known writer around the county, who has moved to town next to the crime scene when he was young, was the crime. In Aug, Liu confessed to his crime and accomplice.
8. Scientific Importance
 1. Recovered DNA from cigarette butts in 2017 when crime was in 1995
9. Article Links
 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/aug/16/guilty-secret-chinese-writer-arrested-cold-case-murders>

12. Kentucky Rapist

1. Location of Crime
 1. Kentucky
2. Type of Crime
 1. Rape
3. Year of Crime
 1. 2012
4. Year of Hit
 1. 2017
5. Database
 1. CODIS
6. Brief Summary
 1. A woman was raped after accepting a ride from someone who she thought was a friend. Her rape kit sat untested for years, until it was sent to a contract lab for testing. A hit came back to a convicted offender.
7. Full Facts
 1. On July 1, 2012 a woman accepted a ride from someone she thought she knew in an effort to get to her home a few blocks away. However the individual turned out to be a stranger and instead of taking her home he drove her to a cemetery where he proceeded to rape her. In 2015 the Kentucky State Auditor found this kit during an

- audit attempting to locate untested sexual assault kits. The kit was sent to a contract lab for processing and ultimately entered into CODIS.
2. On March 30, 2017 the Kentucky State Police Central Forensic Laboratory reported to Louisville Metro Police Department Sex Crimes Unit that there had been an offender DNA hit to this case from 2012. The suspect was identified as Cornelius Miller. Louisville Metro began the process of attempting to locate the victim to determine whether she would want to pursue prosecution.
 3. Cornelius Miller's criminal history began in 1979 at the age of 20 when he was first convicted of rape, robbery, kidnapping, and sodomy. He was released on parole in 1981 and was subsequently convicted of rapes occurring in 1982 and 1983. This would put him in a Kentucky prison until 2009 when he was released on parole as a registered sex offender. In 2015 he was arrested for two more rapes just days apart in Shively, KY which is a small city located in Jefferson County and part of Louisville's Metro area. Both women accepted rides from Miller and both were driven to cemeteries where he sexually assaulted them. The court case was still ongoing when the March hit occurred linking him to the 2012 case. Louisville Metro PD and Shively PD began working together to show the similarities between their cases and build a stronger case against Miller.
 4. This case became the first indictment in Kentucky of a backlogged sexual assault case. Because of the similarities in nature the 2012 case was consolidated with the 2015 cases and Miller will now face three victims in court. This hit demonstrates how important testing of all rape kits are and how CODIS brings agencies together to help secure prosecutions. Hopefully it will also ensure this individual will not be a danger to women in Kentucky for a long time.
8. *Investigative Importance*
 1. "The first indictment in Kentucky of a backlogged sexual assault case."
 9. *Article Links*
 1. <http://www.wdrb.com/story/29950800/police-louisville-man-accused-of-raping-women-in-two-different-cemeteries>