MONTEREY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Human Remains Identified as Woman Reported Missing in 1983

On August 18, 2011, human remains were located in a wooded area between S/B Highway 1 and the Del Monte Shopping Center. The remains have been identified as Jennifer Lynn Morris; a local woman reported missing on January 25, 1983. Evidence at the scene indicates that Morris was the victim of a homicide.

Monterey Detectives recovered the remains with assistance of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office Coroner Division and Crime Laboratory and a Forensic Anthropologist from the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office. The positive identification was made by a Forensic Odontologist after examining the dental records that were on file with the California Department of Justice.

Morris was reported missing by her parents, who are now deceased. Morris' car was found in the parking lot near the former Cinema 70 movie theater at the Del Monte Shopping Center shortly after they reported her missing. It was determined that Morris was last seen making a purchase at a department store in the shopping center on the afternoon of January 24, 1983. The immediate area was searched, but no information regarding Morris' whereabouts was found.

At the time of the disappearance, Morris' photograph was released to the media and her father appealed to the public on the local television station. The Department interviewed several people who believed they had seen or talked to Morris after her disappearance, but there was no significant evidence that any of the sightings were Morris.

Morris was 5'3", 115 pounds and had blonde hair with hazel eyes. She was last seen wearing blue jeans, an unknown colored blouse, tennis shoes and pierced earrings with ruby colored stud. Morris drove a beige, 1977 Ford Pinto.

Morris is survived by two brothers, both of whom have been contacted by the Department.

The Monterey Police Department is seeking any information regarding the disappearance and subsequent death of Morris. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Det. Mike Bruno at 831-646-3812 or Bruno@ci.monterey.ca.us or the Confidential Tip Line at 831-646-3840.

Inquiries regarding this release can be made to Lt. Leslie F. Sonné at 831-646-3971 or sonne@ci.monterey.ca.us.

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