

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE PARISH OF ORLEANS

STATE OF LOUISIANA

Case No., (Idaho)2009 01 758

Item No.,

SEARCH WARRANT

APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Judge of the Criminal District Court, Parish of Orleans, State of Louisiana, personally came and appeared: Detective Sergeant James Hoffman, employed by the Idaho Falls Police Department, Detective Unit, 605 North Capital Ave. Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

WHO, after being duly sworn by me, deposed and said:

THAT a search warrant should be issued for the search of the following described **person**. The person is **Mr. Michael P. Usry W/M 01/29/1979**.

FOR the purpose of seizing the following described property: **Swabs to obtain DNA evidence from the person**, of Mr. Michael Usry for comparison to DNA recovered in the investigation of the murder of Angie Dodge .

THE reasons and facts for the request of this search warrant are: On 06/13/1996, at about 1115 hours, the Idaho Falls Police were called to the scene of a homicide at 441 I street in Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, Idaho. The victim, Angie Raye Dodge, was found in her bedroom with numerous knife wounds to her body and neck. During the course of the investigation, semen samples were located on the victim that were deposited during or shortly after the crime was committed. The semen samples were sent to the Idaho State Lab and a DNA profile was obtained. The DNA profile was placed in CODIS and to date we have not received any matches.

As a result of the investigations, Christopher C. Tapp, was arrested and convicted of accessory to homicide and is currently incarcerated in the Idaho State Penitentiary. Tapp, to date, has not provided any usable information or name(s) of the other person(s) involved in the homicide or the complete name of the person who left the semen at the scene. On 04/25/2014, Sorenson Forensics Lab received 2 semen samples from the Idaho Falls Police department (CSI Kristin Gittins) for the purpose of extracting a DNA sample to get a single donor YSTR and mtDNA. The samples were of a semen stain and a semen swab found on the victim of the homicide, Angie Dodge, during the initial investigation. The semen was deposited at the approximate time the crime was committed and is likely to be from one of the homicide suspects. The purpose of the DNA / YSTR /mtDNA test is to match results against an existing YSTR and mtDNA database that has been compiled by Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation and Ancestry.com through a voluntary genealogy project. A match or partial match of YSTR would reveal a possible surname / relative of the suspect in the Dodge homicide. YSTR is passed down on the male side of a family tree, grandfather to father to son, ect. mtDNA is passed down from the female side of the family tree. It is passed down from grandmother to mother to daughter. An mtDNA match or partial match would reveal a possible relative on the female side of the family tree of the suspect in the Dodge homicide.

On 07/07/2014 I received the results of the DNA / YSTR testing done by Sorenson Forensics. 45 Locus and their corresponding Allele were obtained. I placed the results in to the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation Y-Chromosome Database and completed a search. 41 partial matches were obtained and were listed as "1" to "41" in the results column. Result #3 matched 34 of 35 alleles which was the best match of the 41 results. I then checked the pedigree (family tree) of result #3 and found the name to be protected. It is the policy of Sorenson Molecular to protect the names of anyone born after 1906 because there is a chance the donor is living. On 07/07/2014 I emailed Dr. Greg Hampikian Professor of Biology and Criminal Justice at Boise State University. Dr. Hampikian had been instructing me in the past on DNA and YSTR. He is also the Director of the Idaho Innocence Project and was working on the Dodge Homicide for Christopher Tapp who was convicted of Homicide in the case. Dr. Hampikian told me that result #3 in the YSTR

search results was a very good match and that the donor would probably be within 3 or 4 generations of the suspect who left semen at the Dodge homicide. It was also his opinion that, barring an adoption or name change, we probably had a last name and / or relative of the suspect in the homicide case. I also advised Dr. Hampikian of the "Protected" status of the name in the database.

On 07/09/2014, I emailed Carma Smith, Forensic Case Manager at Sorenson forensics in Utah, and advised her of my findings. Carma Smith told me that she would talk to their Lab Director Dan Hellwig about the findings and the "Protected" status of the donor name. On 07/10/2014, I received an Email back from Carma Smith. She wanted me to know that Dan Hellwig said finding a match with 34 out of 35 Allele was exceptionally good and would be a close relation to our homicide suspect.

On 07/14/2014, I researched Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation and found that the Y-Chromosome database was incorporated in to a database that now belongs to Ancestry.com. I contacted the legal department for Ancestry.com and talked to the administrative assistant, Suzanne Hyde. I asked Hyde about the process of identifying result #3 from the Y-Chromosome search and getting the name of the original donor for their database. Hyde said she would consult with the attorneys and reply as soon as possible. On 07/16/2014, I talked to Suzanne Hyde in reference to getting the information we needed from them. Hyde told me that they could provide that information but they would require a subpoena before they could locate and release that information to the Idaho Falls Police department. The subpoena can be sent to: Ancestry.com DNA, LLC General Council 360 West. 4800 North Provo, Utah 84604.

The personal Y-Chromosome Analysis report from Sorenson Forensics and the results of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Y-Chromosome database search are attached to the case report.

I requested a search warrant for the YSTR search result #3, and all information including full names, date of births, date of deaths, and other information pertaining to the original donor to the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy project / Ancestry.com DNA of result #3 and other family tree / genealogy information that is contained in that file.

On 07/21/2014, Idaho 6th district Magistrate Judge, Mark Riddoch, granted the search warrant for the YSTR records at Ancestry.com. The warrant was sent to Ancestry's legal division in Provo Utah on 07/21/2014 via United States Postal Service, overnight delivery and was received by Ancestry on 07/22/2014.

On 09/04/2014, I received an email response from Ancestry.com. The original donor to the YSTR sample #3 was Michael Perrell Usry Sr. in Clinton Mississippi, date of birth 12/08/1952.

I put together genealogy for Michael Perrell Usry Sr. using Ancestry.com. I completed 5 generations of the "Usry" Family genealogy. I checked the Usry family male descendant line for 4 generations and found only 3 males that were in the right age group at the time of the homicide, only one was found to have some ties to the Idaho Falls area. That person was Michael Perrell Usry Jr, date of birth 01/29/1979, the YSTR donors one and only son.

The Idaho connection was established by using Facebook. I found that Andrea Taylor (Usry) and Lindsay Stevens (Usry), both sisters to Michael Usry Jr., went to BYU Idaho "Ricks College" in Rexburg Idaho (25 miles from Idaho Falls) a couple of years after the Dodge homicide. Michael Usry Jr. would have been 17 years old at the time of the homicide and I thought he might also have looked at BYU Idaho as a possibility after high school. I called BYU Idaho admissions but they had no record of Michael Usry Jr. in their records. They did show Michael Usry Sr. listed as father and responsible to both Andrea Taylor and Lindsay Stevens.

While going through Michael Usry Jr's. Facebook page, I found that he was friends with several members of the (Hyrum) Boone family who have members that reside both in Clinton Mississippi and Rigby Idaho (13 miles from Idaho Falls). This information was confirmed by Idaho State Police trooper Marvin Crane who is friends with members of the Boone family in Rigby Idaho.

During the early interviews with Christopher Tapp in 1997, he told investigators that the third person involved in the homicide was named "Mike" but he did not know Mikes last name because he was not from the area. Christopher Tapp describes "Mike" as being 15 to 18 years old 5'10" to 6' tall, weighing about 170 to 180 pounds, with brownish hair. During subsequent interviews, Tapp gave several other names but they were investigated and found not to be suspects or fictitious. Tapp came back to the name "Mike" several times and the description given by Tapp generally matches that of Michael Usry Jr. who would have been 17 at the time of Angie Dodge's homicide. His current information shows 5'11" tall 185 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes.

I did a Google search for Michael Usry and found several sites that promote short films that Michael Perell Usry Jr. is associated with. Michael Usry Jr. appears to be producer / cameraman for the films. Most of the films subject matter dealt with some sort of homicide or killings. These short films have won awards in several film festivals. One in particular, Murderabilia, talked about murdering a young girl and the killer leaving with an item to remember the homicide by.

On 09/28/2014, I talked to FBI Special Agent Troy Smoot in Pocatello Idaho. I requested some assistance in running Michael Usry Jr. through some of the databases available to the FBI. On 10/02/2014, I received an email from SA Smoot. The only thing found was a possible current address for Michael Usry Jr. at 634 North Alexander Street in New Orleans Louisiana.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, it is requested that the Court issue an order of search to obtain Swabs to obtain DNA evidence from the body of the person, Michael Usry.

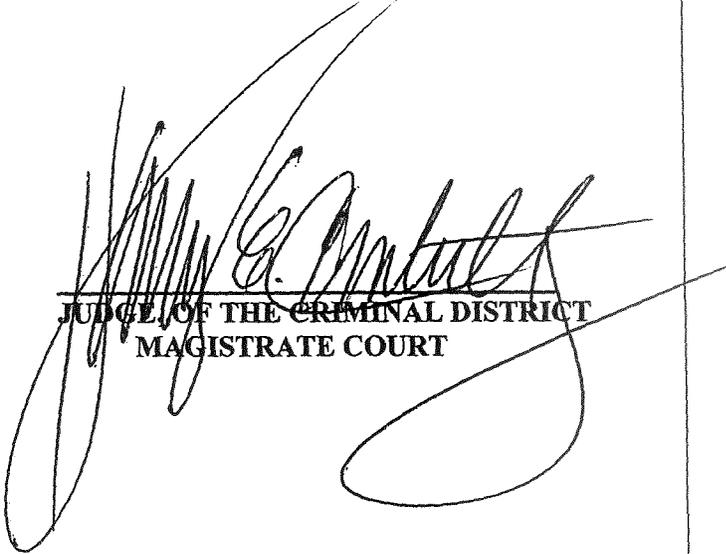


Affiant
Sergeant James Hoffman
Idaho Falls Police Department
Idaho Falls, Idaho

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME,

THIS 10th DAY OF December, 2014,

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.



JUDGE OF THE CRIMINAL DISTRICT
MAGISTRATE COURT

Copies:

- Original- Unit File
- Copy-District Attorney
- Copy-Record Room
- Copy-Judge signing Warrant when making return