



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Homicide Unit

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SAN DIEGO POLICE ANNOUNCE ARREST IN 1989 COLD CASE MURDER

(San Diego) San Diego Police Homicide Unit detectives arrested 51-year-old Howard Dean Jamison for the 1989 murder of Ewing C. Scroggs. Mr. Scroggs was 83 years old at the time of his murder which occurred in Pacific Beach.

On December 10, 1989, at about 2:20 p.m., family members found the victim deceased inside of his residence at 4890 Mission Boulevard. Family members were called to the residence by neighbors who hadn't seen Scroggs in several days. Scroggs was found in a rear bedroom, the obvious victim of a brutal attack. Family members called for police and a murder investigation was initiated. The early investigation revealed that the entire house had been ransacked and several personal items belonging to the victim were missing from the residence.

Homicide detectives collected several pieces of evidence from the murder scene, including fingerprints and biological DNA evidence. Family members and neighbors were interviewed extensively in an attempt to determine the motivation for the attack and to hopefully identify potential suspects. However, all leads were exhausted, and the investigation was inactivated.

On two occasions over the last 19 years, members of the SDPD Cold Case Homicide team reviewed all files related to the investigation, submitting viable evidentiary items for analysis and comparison. In April 2009, SDPD Laboratory personnel advised Cold Case detectives that the FBI had identified a possible DNA match between evidence retrieved at the crime scene and a subject who was arrested in Connecticut for an unrelated crime. As a result of this match, Howard Jamison was identified as a suspect in the murder investigation. Detectives re-opened the investigation and confirmed that Jamison was in San Diego during the time of the murder. In fact, Jamison was arrested on December 11, 1989, one day after the murder, as a fugitive from the state of Connecticut. Prior to April 2009 Jamison was not listed as a suspect in the investigation.

The San Diego County District Attorney's Office, working in conjunction with the FBI and members of the San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit, issued an arrest warrant for Howard Jamison charging him with the 1989 murder of Mr. Ewing C. Scroggs. Today, at about 1:30 p.m. EDT, SDPD Homicide detectives and officers from the Milford (Connecticut) Police Department located and arrested Howard Jamison near his residence in the city of Milford. Jamison was booked into jail on one count of murder. His extradition to San Diego is pending, and will be arranged via the Extradition Unit at the San Diego County District Attorney's Office.

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