

**Case No80/121362**  
***Murder of GLADYS RAMIREZ***  
***April 17, 1980, 374 Eland***



**SYNOPSIS:** On Wednesday, April 17, 1980, Police Officers and the Fire Department were dispatched to 374 Eland for a house fire. When the Fire Department arrived, they found the Complainant inside the house, burned and deceased.

Dr. Ruben Santos of the Medical Examiner's Office, performed an autopsy on the Complainant. The results of the autopsy showed the Complainant had also been stabbed and strangled along with being burned, and the death was ruled a Homicide. Gladys Jean Ramirez was 29 years old at the time of her death.

**CASE SOLVED:** In 2004, a former San Antonio resident who was residing in Virginia saw Gladys Ramirez's case on the SAPD Cold Case web page. The witness came forward and provided detectives with a statement that identified the husband of Gladys Ramirez as the suspect in the murder. Detectives obtained statements from two additional witnesses, and on October 7, 2004, SAPD Homicide Detective George Saidler obtained a Murder Warrant for Jose Angel Ramirez, (LM DOB 6/20/50), the husband of Gladys Ramirez. Jose Ramirez was arrested the same day, and is currently awaiting trial.

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**Case No83/199090**  
***Murder of RACHEL KOSUB***  
***June 6, 1983, 5103 Randolph Blvd***

**SYNOPSIS:** On June 6, 1983, Rachel Kosub was found raped and strangled to death by a silk stocking. She was found on the floor of the interior design shop where she worked, at 5103 Randolph Blvd. Rachel Kosub was 32 years old at the time of her death.

**CASE SOLVED:** On June 26, 2003, SAPD Homicide Detective George Saidler obtained a Murder warrant for Mike Edgar Dossett (WM DOB 8/26/48), who was arrested the same day. Dossett had been a suspect in the case for many years, due to other rapes he had committed. When interviewed soon after Rachel Kosub's murder, Dossett told detectives about a "dream", which was actually a confession. In 2003, SAPD Homicide detectives sent the evidence from the rape kit taken at the time of Kossub's death to the Bexar County Crime Lab for DNA testing (DNA testing was not available in 1983). The DNA evidence matched Dossett's DNA, and detectives filed a case on him June, 2003. Dossett was indicted in September of 2003, and went to trial for the Murder of Rachel Kosub in January, 2005.

The jury found Dossett Guilty of Murder, and he was sentenced to 40 years in jail. He is currently in TDC.

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**Case No85/111944**  
***Murder of JOSE BRANT***

***March 22, 1985, 219 Third Street***

**SYNOPSIS:** On March 22, 1985, Jose Brant, age 30, was asleep in the loft area of the Anybody's Game Room located at 219 Third St. Two men, one of whom was later identified as Wilfredo Viciado, walked into the game room, climbed the ladder to the loft, pulled out a handgun, and shot Mr Brant while he was asleep. It was reported that the motive for the murder was drug related, and that Viciado received \$1000 for killing Brant.

In 1986 a case was filed with the D.A. and a warrant issued for Mr Viciado. Viciado had no local record and was reported to be from Cuba, with several alias names and identifiers. He remained at large for over 20 years, until 2007.

**SUSPECT ARRESTED:** On Wednesday, January 31, 2007, members of the SAPD Tactical Response Unit (TRU) made a traffic stop at IH 35 Frontage Rd and Goldfield, on the city's northeast side. Viciado was found in the vehicle and gave one of his many aliases. He denied being in San Antonio or having anything to do with the 1985 murder. The diligence and persistence of the TRU officers eventually led to the identification of Viciado as the person named in the 1986 warrant. Viciado was arrested, turned over to Bexar County Warrant Officers, and booked for Murder.



Arrested Suspect  
Wilfredo Marrero  
Viciado

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**Case No85/538435**

***Murder of JOHN FRISCO  
December 13, 1985, 5100 Walzem***

**SYNOPSIS:** On December 13, 1985, Lt. John Paul Frisco of the Windcrest Police Department was working security, in full uniform, outside a club, when he interrupted a car burglar. Frisco was dragged down the street by the suspected car burglar's truck, and then thrown from the truck into oncoming traffic. Frisco was hit by another vehicle and died at the scene. The suspect Frisco was trying to apprehend fled the scene.

**CASE SOLVED:** Fifteen years later, a suspect arrested by SAPD Narcotics Unit officers for a narcotics charge, indicated he had information about the 1985 murder of John Frisco. SAPD Homicide Detective George Saidler interviewed the suspect, who gave Saidler information that eventually led to the truck that had been used in the murder, and then to Pablo Salinas as the murder suspect. (The truck was then being used as a chicken coop.)

On April, 2001, Pablo Salinas (LM 9/15/1963) was arrested for the Murder of John Frisco. He was tried and found Guilty, and in 2003 Salinas was sentenced to 25 years in TDC.

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**Case No86/553243**

***Murder of MICHAEL O'DONNELL  
November 19, 1986, 1543 Somerset Rd***



**SYNOPSIS:** Shortly after midnight on November 20, 1986, Michael O'Donnell and Benito Rivera were each shot while playing pool with two other men at the Blue Sky Lounge located at 1543 Somerset Rd. After the shooting, one suspect said, "They want to play, but don't want to pay," suggesting that the shooting was over wagers placed on the pool games. Michael O'Donnell died at the hospital and Benito Rivera survived his wounds.

**CASE SOLVED:** In 2000, SAPD Detective Andrew Carian filed on David Cantu (LM 3/3/64) for the Murder of Michael O'Donnell. Cantu was tried, and found Guilty of Voluntary Manslaughter. He was sentenced to 10 years probation beginning in 2001.

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### **Case No87/046463**

#### ***Murder of DIANNA LOWREY January 29, 1987, 404 Bailey***

**SYNOPSIS:** On January 29, 1987, 25-year-old Diana Lowery was found dead in the bathroom of her home by her live-in boyfriend when he returned home from work. The cause of death was ruled asphyxia. Lowery was last seen by her boyfriend early in the morning when he left for work. He found her body when he returned from work at 6:30pm. Police believe the victim might have known her attacker or a key was used to gain entry to the apartment. Lowery was very fearful and would not open the door even for the landlord. No signs of forced entry were found.

**The Cold Case investigation conducted on this case identified Larry Leroy Moore as a suspect in this case. Moore was the landlord and neighbor of Diana Lowery and DNA evidence collected from this scene and compared to Moore corroborates the belief that Moore committed the crime. Moore was arrested in July 2005 and this case was closed. The case against him was later dismissed by the Bexar County District Attorney's Office.**

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### **Case No89/177682**

#### ***Murder of JAYNE HAYS April 17, 1989, 402 Bryn Mawr***



**SYNOPSIS:** Jayne Hays was an elderly woman who lived alone in a downstairs apartment. When a neighbor was not able to get a response from her apartment, the neighbor contacted the apartment manager. Upon entry into the apartment, Jayne Hays was located lying on the floor, bludgeoned to death.

**CASE SOLVED:** In January, 2003, the case was reopened by the Cold Case squad, witnesses were re-interviewed, and a motive was established. The suspect was the maid, who had been fired by Mrs. Hays in February of 1989, accused of stealing money from the apartment. The suspect admitted she was in the victim's apartment on the Wednesday before the murder, but her reason changed several times as to why she was there. Other details of the story and the crime scene led Homicide detectives to resubmit evidence for testing. A blood stain found on a washcloth in the crime scene contained the DNA profile of both Jayne Hays and the suspect. This, along with other evidence, was turned over to the Bexar County District Attorney's Office in June of 2005.

On September 1, 2005, a Bexar County Grand Jury indicted Marie Reilly, WF 10/21/28 (the maid), charging her with murder. On July 22, 2006, Reilly was convicted with murder and sentenced to 20 years in the Texas Department of corrections.

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**Case No91/376309**

***Murder of MICHAEL WHITE***

***July 19, 1991, 825 Ave B***

**SYNOPSIS:** On July 19, 1991, the body of a "John Doe" was found in the yard of a house on Avenue B. The body was later identified as Michael White, who was 33 years old at the time of his death. White had been shot multiple times.

**CASE SOLVED:** In September of 2001, investigators from the Bexar County DA's Office, Harris County DA's Office, and SAPD Detective George Saidler interviewed Angel Resendiz (the "Railroad Killer") at the Harris County Jail. During this interview, Resendiz gave a recorded confession to three homicides in San Antonio between the years 1986 and 1991. As a result of this confession, the Bexar County Sheriff's Department was able to immediately identify one of the murders attributed to Resendiz and clear that case. The remaining two murders remained unsolved but not forgotten.

In 2006, SAPD Det. George Saidler was able to identify one of the murders as that of Michael White, on July 19, 1991. The identification was made by comparing a rough hand-drawn map of the crime scene made by Resendiz with newly computerized and mapped homicide data. Information provided by Resendiz concerning the murder weapon and how the crime was committed matched the details of the White case. As a result, Resendiz has been positively identified as the killer of Mr. White, and the case is considered cleared.

Angel Resendiz is currently on death row at TDJC.

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**Case No92/007581**

***Murder of MARK McFAUL***

***January 4, 1992, 7551 Callaghan***



**SYNOPSIS:** On January 4, 1992, car salesman Mark McFaul was found lying next to his car in the parking lot of an office complex in the 7200 block of Marbach Rd. McFaul had been shot to death and was found by a security guard.

**CASE SOLVED:** SAPD Homicide detectives received their first break in this case ten years later, through a tip from a prison informant. (A TDCJ Crime Stoppers "Behind the Walls" tip.) The informant was later fitted with a wire, and recorded information from the suspect concerning the case while back in prison. The recorded information resulted in SAPD detectives solving two cold case murders, and the informant was later involved a third case being solved. In 2002, SAPD Detective Saidler filed on Joe Louis Cuellar (LM 11/22/67) for the Murder of of Mark McFaul and the August 24, 1992 Capital Murder of Samuel Evans (see below). In 2005 Cuellar was found Guilty and sentenced to 60 years. He is presently in TDC.

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**Case No92/527267**

***Murder of SAMUEL EVANS***

***August 24, 1992, 5757 Loop 410 NW***

**SYNOPSIS:** On August 24, 1992, Samuel Evans was shot and killed while using an ATM machine at Security Service Federal Credit Union on NW Loop 410.

**CASE SOLVED:** A tip from a prison informant led SAPD detectives to the identity of the suspect in this case and in the murder of Mark McFaul (discussed above).

In 2002, Joe Louis Cuellar (LM 11/22/67) was charged with the January 4, 1992, Murder of Mark McFaul and with the Capital Murder of Samuel Evans. In 2005 Cuellar was found Guilty and sentenced to 60 years. He is presently in TDC.

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**Case No94/092061**

***Murder of Susan Verstegen***

***February 19, 1994, 7893 Grissom Road***



**SYNOPSIS:** Susan Verstegen's body was found behind Prince of Peace Catholic Church at 7893 Grissom Road on February 19, 1994. A Frito-Lay saleswoman, Verstegen was last seen working behind the H.E.B. Supermarket at 9255 Grissom Road about 3:50 in the morning. Her car, a dark green 1991 Pontiac Firebird, was later found in the parking lot of the apartments at 8900 Timberwilde Drive. Verstegen had been raped and strangled, and her body stuffed in a 55-gallon drum.

**CASE SOLVED:** On February 11, 2002, SAPD Homicide Detective George Saidler filed Capital Murder charges on Rodrigo Rodriguez Hernandez, (LM DOB 6/27/73) for the murder of Susan Verstegen. A warrant was issued in September 2002, and the suspect was arrested in November 2002. SAPD detectives were led to Hernandez through a CODIS DNA match, after Hernandez was required by a new Michigan law to provide a DNA sample as a condition of release from a Michigan prison. The DNA sample was submitted to the national DNA database CODIS, where SAPD detectives had previously deposited DNA from the Verstegen murder. Rodrigo Rodriguez was tried and convicted of Capital Murder in 2004, and was sentenced to Death. He is presently on Death Row in Huntsville, TX.

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### **Case No94/720873-01/02**

#### ***Murder of SARAH GONZALES and PRISCILLA ALMAREZ December 17, 1994, 6500 Keitha***



**SYNOPSIS:** On the morning of December 17, 1994, the bodies of 13 year-old Sarah Gonzales and 12 year-old Priscilla Almares were found on the side of the roadway in the 6500 block of Keitha Blvd., near Rodriguez Park. According to family members, the last time the two girls were seen alive was when they left a friend's house on Altitude around 4:30 pm, on Friday evening, December 16, 1994. When the bodies were found the next morning, both were victims of apparent homicide by strangulation. Police believe the girls were killed somewhere else and dumped at the Keitha Blvd. location.

**CASE SOLVED:** On July 23, 2001, SAPD Detective Saidler filed Capital Murder charges on Ramon Hernandez (LM DOB 11/8/71), who had been arrested in April 2001 for another murder: the March 31, 2001 murder by strangulation of 37-year-old Rosa Rosado at 2015 Culebra. While Hernandez was in prison for that murder, a DNA match in CODIS linked him to the murders of both Almares and Gonzales. Ramon Hernandez was convicted of Capital Murder in October, 2002, and sentenced to Death.

He is currently on Death Row at Huntsville, TX.

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**Case No95/035484**

***Murder of ELIAS DOMINGUEZ  
January 19, 1995, 727 Matthews***

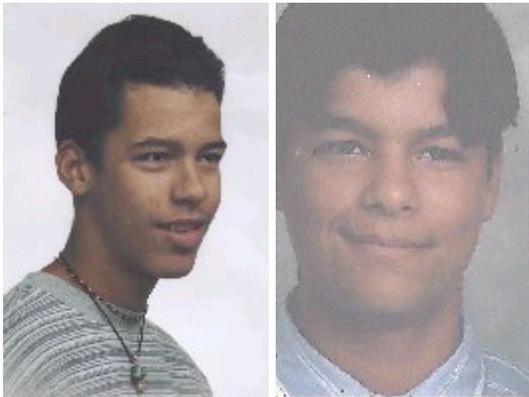
**SYNOPSIS:** Elias Dominguez was found in the doorway of his residence, shot to death. It was later learned, from the confession of the accused killer, that Dominguez was shot during a drug deal.

**CASE SOLVED:** During interviews with the informant in the McFaul and Evans murders, discussed previously, SAPD Detective George Saidler became suspicious of the informant's involvement in the Dominguez murder. After being confronted with these suspicions, the informant, Jesse Hawkins Morales (LM 11/21/61) confessed to the murder of Elias Dominguez, and in 2003 Det. Saidler filed charges on Morales for Dominguez's Murder. In 2005, Morales was found Guilty of Murder and was sentenced to 25 years in TDC.

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**Case No96/729426-01**

***Murder of ERIC ANDERSON and CHRISTIAN MALDONADO  
December 1, 1996, Pipers Lane***



**SYNOPSIS:** On December 1, 1996, the bodies of two Holmes High School students were discovered in a field known as the "Devis's Den", behind the Piper's Creek Subdivision on the city's northwest side. The two students, Eric Anderson and Christian Maldonado, had been missing since November 12, 1996.

**CASE SOLVED:** In February, 1999, a tip to the SAPD Homicide Unit led Detective Ernie Tavitas to file a Murder case on the suspect, Roger Yanez Martinez (LM DOB 01-02-1979). Martinez was brought to trial, and in August, 2000, he pled Guilty to both murders. He was given two LIFE sentences, and is presently in TDC.

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**Case No97/119617**

***Murder of JORGE RUVALCABA and CESAR BLAKE  
February 28, 1997, 4606 S. Zarzamora***

**SYNOPSIS:** Both Jorge Ruvalcaba and Cesar Blake were shot and killed while sitting in a car outside Ruvalcaba's daughter's wedding reception.

**CASE SOLVED:** In 2000, SAPD Homicide Detective Saidler filed Murder charges on two men for the Murders of Jorge Ruvalcaba and Cesar Blake. Suspects Jose Abel Rodriguez (LM 9/13/1970), who was identified as the shooter, and Hugo Villarreal (LM 10/24/1966), identified as the person who hired Rodriguez to shoot Ruvacalaba, were both tried in Federal Court and

received LIFE sentences. Rodriguez is presently in Federal Prison in Beaumont.

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**Case No00/113136**  
***Murder of PEDRO PADRON***  
***July 29, 1999, West Ave***

**SYNOPSIS:** Pedro Padron was kidnapped while washing his car on West Ave, on July 29, 1999. On February 1, 2000, his body was found in Hidalgo County. Padron had been shot to death.

**CASE SOLVED:** In 2001, an informant revealed information to Homicide Det. George Saidler that implicated a member of the Hermanos Pistoleros Latinos in the murder of Pedro Padron. Det. Saidler tracked down witnesses to the incident, and brought the suspect, Bruce Medina (LM 07-30-78), in for questioning. When confronted with the information that Det. Saidler had, Medina confessed to killing Padron. In June of 2001 Det. Saidler filed Capital Murder charges on Bruce Medina and on a second suspect, Ricardo Sanchez (LM 05-09-69). Medina was sentenced to LIFE in prison, and Sanchez was sentenced to 40 years.

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**Case No00/076453**  
***Murder of PRISCILLA NERIO***  
***February 6, 2000, 3135 Roosevelt***



**SYNOPSIS:** On February 6, 2000, 22-year old Priscilla Nerio was found dead in the bathtub of her home. The water was running and she was fully clothed. At the time of her death, Nerio was the mother of two children and pregnant with her third child. The Medical Examiner ruled the death as a strangulation drowning. Over the years, several leads were developed and suspects investigated, but with no arrest.

**CASE SOLVED:** In December of 2003, SAPD Homicide Cold Case Detectives received information that CODIS had made a DNA hit on this case, and had identified Theodore Edward Salinas (DOB 8/6/1980) as a suspect. In January 2004, Detectives George Saidler and Robert Moffitt confronted Salinas with this new information and obtained a written statement from him concerning his involvement in the murder of Priscilla Nerio. On August 28, 2006, a jury convicted Theodore Salinas for the murder of Priscilla Nerio, and the jury assessed him a Life Sentence.

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**Case No00/425827**

***Murder of ALFONSO CHAVARRIA***  
***July 6, 2000, 1350 Rilling Road***

**SYNOPSIS:** Alfonso Chavarria was found shot to death on July 6, 2000, outside a mobile home on Rilling Road. The mobile home was located inside a vehicle salvage yard, and the killing was witnessed by two girls, ages 12 and 13.

**CASE SOLVED:** On September 25, 2000, Roberto Lopez (LM 5-17-71) was arrested and charged with the Murder of Alfonso Chavarria. Det. Saidler obtained information leading to Lopez's arrest during the investigation of the 1997 murders of Jorge Ruvalcaba and Cesar Blake (discussed above). Lopez was a hit man for Hugo Villarreal, convicted in the Ruvalcaba and Blake case. Roberto Lopez was sentenced in Federal Court to LIFE in prison.

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**Case No00/777657**  
***Murder of EDWARD COVALT***  
***DECEMBER 3, 2000***

**SYNOPSIS:** On December 3, 2000, Edward Covalt was involved in an altercation with 6 to 7 Hispanic males at a gas station in the 2700 blk of Culebra. After leaving the scene in his car, Covalt was followed and shot by suspects in a pickup truck. He died at the scene. His girlfriend and her son, also in Covalt's car, were also injured.

**CASE SOLVED:** On 11-30-2004 a subject was arrested on a shoplifting charge and mentioned that he had information on a murder from 2000 that happened at Gen Mc Mullen and Culebra. This individual was interviewed and provided the name of a person that had been directly involved in the fight with Edward Covalt. It was discovered that this person was in federal custody and subsequently interviewed. Once interviewed he admitted to being involved in the fight and was cut above the eye. Biological evidence collected at the scene was compared to this individual and did in fact link him to the fight. This same person provided names of people that may have been involved in the shooting and the name of a possible driver. After an extensive investigation and interviewing several witnesses the driver and shooter were named. On 05-06-2010 Detective Michael De Leon obtained a warrant for the arrest of one suspect (as it was discovered he was the driver of the suspect vehicle) and a warrant for the arrest of a second suspect, who was named as the shooter. (The suspected shooter is currently incarcerated on unrelated charges and a murder charge has been filed against him.)

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**Case No01/862040**  
***Murder of ERNESTO GUTIERREZ***  
***December 26, 2001, 2303 Goliad***



**SYNOPSIS:** On Wednesday, December 26, 2001, 32-year-old Ernest Gutierrez was shot at the Marigold Apartments, located at 2303 Goliad. Ernest had gone there with friends to pick up some Christmas gifts from a friend. Upon arrival Ernest walked to the apartment by himself, while the friends waited in the car. Minutes later Gutierrez staggered out of the apartment. He had been shot. Gutierrez was transported to an area hospital, where he later died as a result of his injuries.

**CASE SOLVED:** In 2004, SAPD Homicide Detective Timm Angell interviewed a possible suspect in this case, who led him to a second suspect, who was arrested in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma suspect, Alejandro Valencia (LM 12-26-76) confessed to shooting Ernesto Gutierrez in a scuffle inside the apartment, and Valencia implicated as second man, Federico Llamas (LM 2-16-78), as also in the apartment and involved in the shooting. Lamas was arrested in Minnesota. When interviewed, Lamas confessed, but both Valencia and Llamas insisted the shooting was after a scuffle over a gun and was in self defense. After charges were filed, the District Attorney determined the case was self defense. Both Valencia and Llamas were released.

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***Murder of NICHOLAS PLAZA  
November, 2001, Location Unknown***



**SYNOPSIS:** During November 2001, the family of Nicholas Plaza, age 5, informed the San Antonio Police Department that Nicholas had been missing since October. Later investigation produced information that Nicholas' body had been put into a dumpster during November 2001 by his mother's boyfriend. Extensive searches of dumpsters and dump sites never produced a body.

**CASE SOLVED:** In July 2002 Cold Case Detective George Saidler was assigned the case. In 2005, Saidler obtained a warrant for the mother's boyfriend, Ruben Zavala, Jr., age 33, who was arrested and charged with causing serious bodily injury to a child. He had admitted all along that he had put Nicholas's body in the dumpster. Saidler also obtained a warrant for Nicholas' mother, Priscilla Plaza, and she was arrested as well.

In July, 2007, the trial of Ruben Zavala, Jr. concluded with a guilty verdict and a sentence of 67 years in prison. Nicholas' mother had pled guilty and was sentenced to 20 years.

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**Case 03/389332**  
***Murder of DARLA HUGHES  
June 13, 2003, 300 blk Avondale***

**SYNOPSIS:** On Friday, June 13, 2003, at approximately 4:20 am, the police were called to a home in the 300 block of Avondale. Upon arrival they were led to the bedroom, where they found the victim, 30-year-old Darla Hughes, who had been severely beaten. According to

police, the victim's common-law husband was asleep in the house when he heard a loud noise. When he went to investigate, he discovered Darla bleeding profusely. She was transported to BAMC with severe blows to the face and head, and died a short time later as a result of her injuries.

**CASE SOLVED:** On 06-02-10 Detective Michael De Leon was assigned the case to investigate further. With the help of Cold Case Volunteers, specifically a forensics expert and former FBI Profiler , the case was reviewed. The forensics opinions offered of the crime scene and evidence supported investigators beliefs that John Johnstone committed the Murder. The opinions offered regarding Johnstone's psychological profile assisted Detective De Leon in his subsequent interview of Johnstone . Based on the facts presented in the case and with the assistance of the Cold Case Volunteers , John Johnstone was subsequently arrested and later indicted for the Murder of Darla Hughes.

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### **2002 - DOMINGO ARREDONDO-MENDEZ**

**Case 02/240263, April 13, 2002**



**NOTE: CASE SOLVED - Actors in Jail Awaiting Trial.**

On April 13, 2002, Domingo Arredondo-Mendez, a latin male age 51, was going to visit a friend when he parked his vehicle in front of a church at S.W. 34th Street and Akron. Three suspects, described as Latin males between the ages of 18-22, walked up to Domingo's vehicle before he got out. One of the suspects served as a lookout and the other two males confronted Domingo. One of the suspects stabbed Domingo Arredondo-Mendez as he sat in the driver's seat of his car. All three suspects then fled on foot. Domingo then got out of his vehicle yelling that they took his wallet, then collapsed. He later died at the hospital. Homicide detectives believe the suspects were probably neighborhood boys who committed this crime as a crime of opportunity.

**CASE SOLVED:** During 2009, Cold Case Detective Griener's investigation identified two actors and a "look-out" responsible for the victim's murder. The investigation revealed that the victim was murdered during an Aggravated Robbery. The two actors were charged with Capital Murder and are currently in Jail, awaiting trial.