



Cold Case Files

Cynthia McKenna, 2007

Overview

On February 21, 2007, North Providence Police Department (NPPD) responded to Cynthia McKenna's North Providence apartment, where they found Cynthia unresponsive in her bed. The state medical examiner determined that Cynthia's cause of death was asphyxiation due to blocked airways. Witness statements highlighted a tense relationship history between Cynthia and Robert J. Corry, Jr.

Initial Investigation

- 3 informants and 5 witnesses gave insights on Cynthia's hostile history with Corry
- A timeline of Corry's whereabouts around the time of Cynthia's murder had significant gaps
- Investigators intercepted letters that Corry wrote in late 2007 confessing to the murder
 - A handwriting analysis showed a "probable" match
 - No matching DNA profile in CODIS to confirm

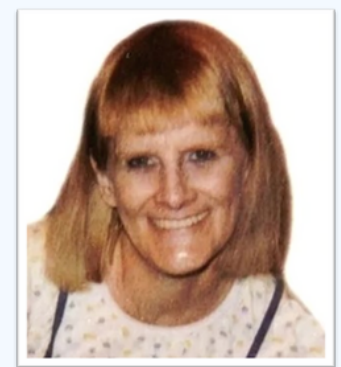


Photo of Cynthia McKenna, provided by family.

Cold Case Unit Investigation

- In 2024, the NPPD and RIAG Cold Case Unit reopened the investigation
- A forensic document examiner and handwriting analyst concluded that Corry wrote the two confession letters
- In a Y-STR analysis, used to compare male family members, a DNA profile from a direct male relative of Corry matched the DNA profile from the envelope, confirming that Corry sent the letters



Letter intercepted by ACI, mailed on 8/14/2007, from a "Bob Corry" to Witness 5

Conclusion

The conclusion that Corry authored the confession letters, coupled with witness information and gaps in determining Corry's whereabouts at the time of the murder, establishes beyond a reasonable doubt that Corry murdered Cynthia.