



Riverside County District Attorney

# CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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## MAN CHARGED IN 1980 MURDER OF HEMET WOMAN

MURRIETA – A Homeland man was charged today, Feb. 4, 2011, with the 1980 murder of a woman in her Hemet home.

Shelby Shamblin, DOB: 9-8-62, was 17 years old when he murdered 67-year-old Elizabeth Crossman inside her home on Florida Avenue on Jan. 17, 1980. The victim died of strangulation. At the time of the murder, detectives had vaginal swabs and a semen smear taken from the victim's body.

The victim's husband told detectives he had previously hired the stepson of an employee to do odd jobs around the house and identified the teen as Shamblin. About a month after the murder, detectives interviewed Shamblin. He told them he had been a runaway at the time and had not been at the Crossman home during the days prior to the murder. Detectives were unable to gather enough evidence to connect Shamblin to the murder.

In 2002, Hemet detectives forwarded biological samples in the Crossman murder to the Department of Justice for analysis. Semen taken from the vaginal swab was entered into CODIS (Combined DNA Index System), a national database of DNA profiles, but did not result in any suspect for the murder.

Then late last month Hemet police detectives were notified that the sample submitted in 2002 had produced a match to Shelby Shamblin.

Shamblin's DNA was entered into the national system for the first time when he was arrested on a drug charge at his Homeland residence on Oct. 7, 2010.

Shamblin was arrested in connection with the Crossman murder shortly after 5 p.m. on Feb. 2, 2011, at his Homeland residence.

Because Shamblin was a juvenile when the murder happened in 1980, he will first appear before a juvenile court judge. A detention hearing is scheduled for 8 a.m. Monday, Feb. 7, 2011, in Dept. S203 at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta. Shamblin is being held without bail at Southwest Detention Center.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Daniel Delimon.