



Riverside County District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

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CHARGES FILED, ARREST MADE IN 1992 COLD CASE MURDER

RIVERSIDE – Today, Oct. 3, 2011, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office filed one count of murder against a man for the 1992 killing of a woman in a Riverside apartment.

A warrant was then issued by a judge for the arrest of Leonard Terrance Woods, DOB: 5-1-58.

At about 1 p.m. today, Riverside police pulled Woods over in his GMC Yukon near his home on Ninebark Street in Moreno Valley. He was arrested without incident.

On Feb. 26, 1992, the body of Judith Goodman was found inside an apartment on Gould Street in Riverside. She was bound at the wrists and ankles with plastic zip ties and her mouth was covered with duct tape. An autopsy determined the cause of death to be manual strangulation. The autopsy also found that Goodman had deep lacerations to the back of her head that did not lead to her death. A decorative hay hook was found in the apartment and likely could have caused those head injuries.

There was not enough evidence at the time to arrest anyone in connection with the murder.

Riverside police detectives reopened the murder investigation in mid-2010. Earlier this year, detectives submitted the zip ties, the duct tape and clippings of the victim's fingernails for DNA testing; something that was unable to be conducted in 1992. Underneath the victim's right-hand fingernails a DNA profile was found which includes Woods as a potential donor.

In 1992, a witness told police that Woods had scratches on his face which police also observed. Woods lived in the same apartment complex as the victim in 1992 and witnesses told police he had been seen going to her apartment. When interviewed by police in 1992, Woods said he worked with the victim and had told her about an available apartment in the complex where he lived. She ultimately moved into that apartment.

Woods has been charged with one count of murder with enhancements of personal use of a deadly weapon – the hay hook, and the serious felony of use of a deadly weapon.

Woods is scheduled to be arraigned Thursday, Oct. 6, at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. 42 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. The case, RIF1103914, is being prosecuted by Laura Ozols of the DA's Cold Hit/Cold Case Unit.