



<http://www.gulfive.com/news/mississippipr...64157105850.xml>

## New leads in county murder case

Saturday, July 24, 2004

By JOHN SURRATT

PASCAGOULA -- Jackson County sheriff's investigators have generated some new leads in their probe into the death of an unidentified man whose body was found on Old Stage Road three years ago.

According to information from county authorities, the new leads involve a possible suspect and DNA evidence that is being processed to go to the Mississippi State Crime Lab. Investigators hope the DNA evidence will lead to an arrest in the case.

"The deceased has family or friends somewhere, and not only does he deserve to be identified, but his killer or killers need to be brought to justice," sheriff's investigator Capt. Mick Sears said.

"We've continued to work this case, checking out a lead here and a lead there," Sheriff Mike Byrd said. "Hopefully, everything will come together soon and we'll have a suspect in custody."

The man's body was found on June 18, 2001, wrapped in a carpet remnant and a blanket on the side of the road by a passerby who was walking along the road. No identification was found with the body.

The unidentified man is described as a middle-aged white or Hispanic man, 5 feet 5 1/2 inches tall and weighing about 250 pounds. His hair was shaved close to the head and described as dark brown with a small amount of gray.

He had several tattoos, including a tattoo of the name "John" on the right chest, a tattoo of a large bird, possibly a peacock or phoenix on his right shoulder and back and a tattoo of an old English E or F on the left inside forearm.

"We have collected DNA samples from the carpet and blanket that wrapped the victim's body," sheriff's investigator Ken McClenic said. "We believe the carpet and blanket came from the suspect's house and we hope the DNA we found at the scene will match the same location where the suspect lives."

After the body was found, sheriff's investigators published a composite drawing of the man and photographs of his tattoos and contacted agencies in other states about missing persons reports in hopes of finding the man's identity.

Authorities said they are again appealing to the public for any information they may have that could assist them in identifying the man and lead to an arrest in the case.

Anyone with information about the man or the case should call the sheriff's department at 228-769-3063, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-433-TIPS. Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest in the case.

Reporter John Surratt, Mississippi Press

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<http://www.picayuneitem.com/articles/2004/...ws/02murder.txt>

Pearl River County man arrested in Jackson County murder

By Jason Niblett/Item Staff Writer  
Thursday, August 12, 2004 1:51 PM CDT

A man wanted in connection with a 2001 murder in Jackson County was arrested in Pearl River County Tuesday.

Pearl River County Chief Deputy Aaron Russell released a statement Wednesday, saying that Pearl River deputies worked with Jackson County deputies to arrest 26 year old Steven Leon Andrews of Roy Road near Lumberton.

The arrest came after reports from Jackson County showed Andrews could be at three different locations. He was also considered armed and a flight risk.

Russell said Andrews was arrested and taken into custody without incident. He said Andrews was asleep at the time of the arrest.

Andrews was charged with capital murder for the death of an unidentified man. The body was discovered on June 18, 2001 wrapped in carpet near the Alabama line.

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Posted on Fri, May. 30, 2008  
Killer takes manslaughter plea  
By MARGARET BAKER  
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PASCAGOULA -- Steven Leon Andrews pleaded guilty Thursday to killing a man in an argument over drugs in 2001, though his victim's identity remains a mystery today. Initially charged with capital murder and robbery, Andrews, 31, pleaded to a reduced charge of manslaughter in exchange for his plea. Jackson County Circuit Judge Dale Harkey deferred Andrews' sentencing until June 6.

Assistant District Attorney Brice Wiggins said the state has recommended a 20-year sentence, with 15 years to serve and five years of post-release supervision.

Andrews was arrested three years after he shot and killed the Hispanic man, whose body was found June 18, 2001, wrapped in some blankets on Old Stage Road in Jackson County near the Alabama line.

To this day, authorities, including lead investigator Jackson County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Ken McClenic, have been trying to find out the victim's identity. They're still awaiting clues in the case.

Andrews' arrest came after he started bragging to others about shooting a "Mexican" over drugs, specifically marijuana.

If the case had gone to trial, Wiggins said, they would've put on witnesses who heard Andrews brag about the killing, as well as others who could identify the items the victim was wrapped in, such as blankets witnesses had seen him with at one time.

Jackson County Sheriff Mike Byrd said he was thrilled the case was solved, though he still has questions.

"There is no doubt in my mind that he was guilty of killing the man," Byrd said Thursday. "I just wish we could find out who he was."

Jackson County investigators still refer to the victim as John Doe, though they're continuing to chase leads to possibly identify him.

Currently the victim's information is listed on The Doe Network, a Web site on which volunteers try to help law enforcement identify nameless victims.

The victim was a white or Hispanic man, 25 to 35, 5 feet 5 to 5 feet 7 inches tall and 250 pounds with a shaved head and a scar in the center of his forehead.

He had tattoos - a large bird, possibly a peacock or phoenix - on his right shoulder with long feathers and flowers and the name "John" on his right-upper chest. He also had the letters "E" and "F" tattooed on his inside forearm.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Jackson County Sheriff's Department at 769-3063.

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Mississippi Coast man to serve 15 years in cold case killing

Associated Press - June 12, 2008 12:34 PM ET

PASCAGOULA, Miss. (AP) - Stephen Leon Andrews has been sentenced to 20 years for the shooting death of a man whose body was wrapped in blankets before acid was poured on the victim's face.

The victim remains unidentified.

The 30-year-old Andrews had pleaded guilty in late May to manslaughter in the June 2001 killing that authorities said was drug related. The Orange Grove-area resident was arrested in August 2004.

Jackson County Circuit Judge Dale Harkey on Wednesday imposed the 20-year sentence, 15 of which are to be served behind bars and five under post-release supervision. The initial charge against Andrews was capital murder, which was reduced to manslaughter.

<http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=8481686>

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PASCAGOULA --Steven Leon Andrews will spend 15 years in prison for killing a man in an argument over drugs and money in 2001.

Circuit Judge Dale Harkey imposed the sentence Wednesday, following the state's recommendation that Andrews serve 15 years, with five additional years of post-release supervision.

Andrews initially was charged with capital murder. But in exchange for a plea the charge was reduced to manslaughter.

Andrews said Wednesday he did not kill the man, who has yet to be identified, but pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of manslaughter to ensure he would one day be reunited with his family and children. The maximum sentence for manslaughter is 20 years.

District Attorney Tony Lawrence disputed Andrews' claims of innocence, saying he had nine witnesses prepared to say Andrews openly bragged about killing the Hispanic man, and even described the man's tattoo, believed to be a large phoenix.

Andrews admitted to bragging about the killing, but said he was lying to impress others because he was influenced by drug and alcohol use.

Harkey imposed the sentence Wednesday despite pleas from Andrews' family for leniency.

Andrew's sister pointed out she and her brother suffered abuse as children and lived in deplorable conditions, with no air conditioning or heat.

Students and some adults in her neighborhood, she said, often taunted the siblings because they were unkempt, wearing dirty clothes and sometime no shoes.

She said her brother had a hard time, especially as a student dealing with bullies, and he ended up quitting school in the seventh grade, leading him to a life of drug and alcohol abuse.

"I ask you judge, please, please don't throw my brother away," his sister said. "He is a good person. I know where he came from and I know what it takes to get out."

Andrews' son broke down in tears when he learned of his father's fate. At the end of sentencing, the judge allowed family members to see Andrews one last time.

Andrews' son held onto him and cried before his father was led away in a red prison jumpsuit made for maximum-security prisoners.

<http://www.sunherald.com/local/story/619860.html>

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Tattoo of the name JOHN, written in fine script in clavicular region of right upper chest; Old English script letter "E" or "F" on left forearm; Black outlined tattoo, 9 by 4 inches, of a peacock on the right upper back; "C" shape scar in left eyebrow; Scar on left side of nose; Possible gunshot scar on left wrist