

9 January 1974

73-17592-12

TO: Director, FBI
Attention: FBI Laboratory

FROM: Thurston County Sheriff's Department
Olympia, Washington
Our Case No. 74-176-1, 73-17592-12

RE: Suspect: David Leroy Hodgers
Victim: Katherine Merry Devine
Offense: Homicide

Dear Sir:

The evidence described below is forwarded under separate cover for examination by the FBI Laboratory.

This evidence is being submitted in connection with an official investigation. It was not, nor will it be subjected to the same type of technical examination by other experts. The evidence is being shipped to you via Air Express, Special Handling.

Please forward results of your report and any evidence you do not retain to Lieutenant H. V. Baesen of this Department.

Sincerely,

Don Redmond
Sheriff

DR/eb



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

73-17592-12

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January 14, 1974

Mr. Don Redmond
To: Sheriff of Thurston County
Olympia, Washington 98507

AIRMAIL

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. PC-K4581 MD MU

Re: DAVID LEROY HEDGERS, SUSPECT;
KATHERINE MERRY DEVINE, VICTIM;
HOMICIDE

Case No. 7a-176-1, 73-17592-12

From: Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

The FBI Laboratory has received the evidence which you sent for examination in connection with the above-entitled case. A Laboratory report will be sent to you after the examination has been completed.

The examination is being made with the understanding that the evidence is connected with an official investigation of a criminal matter and that the Laboratory report will be used for official purposes only, related to the investigation or a subsequent criminal prosecution. Authorization cannot be granted for the use of the Laboratory report in connection with a civil proceeding.

If any developments occur in this case such as dismissal of charges or guilty pleas which would eliminate the necessity for conducting the requested examinations, please advise the FBI Laboratory immediately.

zed

73-17592-12

DESCRIPTION OF EVIDENCE:

1. Hunting knife in leather sheath.

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Examine knife for the possibility of human blood, hair, fiber and any other substance on the knife.

Examine knife for the presence of latent fingerprints.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

A search of the above-named suspect's residence was conducted and the submitted hunting knife and sheath was confiscated. The knife appears to have a great amount of stain and it appears to be blood.

During the search of this residence, newspaper clippings of a recent homicide in our county was discovered. It appeared the knife and the newspaper clippings were attempted to be hidden. Because of the suspicious circumstances of the above material, there may be a relationship of this evidence and the recent homicide in our county.

Supplementary Report

Date: 8 Jan. 74

Case No. 74-176-1

Relating to: 73-17592-1.

During a search of the Dave Hodges residence at 2603 Crowden Rd. Tenino, WA, a knife (hunting style) in a sheath - the knife bearing a great amount of blood stains - was located inside the residence - in a family room -

newspaper clippings of the articles concerning the Kathy Devine homicide were located inside the Hodges' residence in the bedroom of Mr. & Mrs. Hodger laying under some belongings of Mrs. Hodgers.

Due to the suspicious circumstances of the clippings (which were dated) and the great amount of blood on the knife - the knife & a clipping (newspaper) were impounded. The knife has been turned over to Lt. Benson.

J. Mark # 17
Detective

Thurston County Sheriff's Department

Supplementary Report

Date: FEB. 4, 1974

Case No. 73-17592-12

CONTACTED DON MACLAREN, SEATTLE POLICE LAB. HE ADVISED HE HAD NOT WORKED ON THE DEVINE CASE EVIDENCE SINCE HE TALKED WITH SHERIFF REDMOND. THIS WAS DUE TO AN EXCESSIVE WORK LOAD.

REQUESTED THAT HE CHECK A KNIFE SENT TO THE LAB FROM PACIFIC CO SO (PROPERTY OF KENNETH LEROY HIGGINS). AFTER CHECKING IT WAS LEARNED THAT THE WSP LAB HAD THE KNIFE, BUT THAT IT WOULD BE CHECKED.

BARCLIFT #16