


BODY IN THE BARREL AND USE OF FORENSIC DNA

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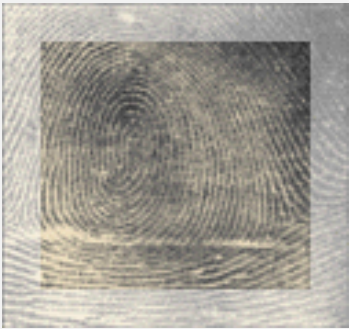
LSU Health

NEW ORLEANS

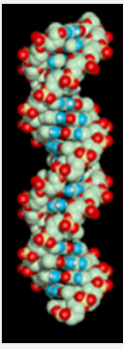
 School of Allied Health Professions

www.strbase.com

Methods for Human Identification



Fingerprints have been used since 1901



DNA since 1986

HUMAN IDENTITY TESTING

- Forensic cases -- **matching suspect with evidence**
- Paternity testing -- **identifying father**
- Mass disasters -- **putting pieces back together**
- Historical investigations
- Missing persons investigations
- Military DNA "dog tag"
- DNA databases

Involves generation of DNA profiles usually with the same core STR (short tandem repeat) markers

SOME BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DNA

DNA = Deoxyribo-Nucleic Acid

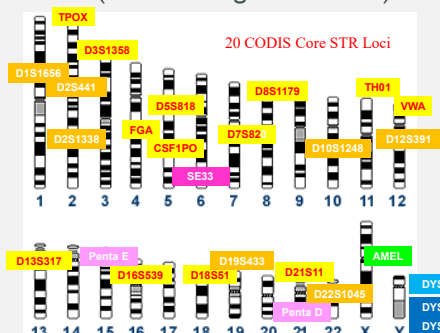
- In almost every cell of our bodies
- Found in a long strand, like a piece of rope
- Made up of a simple alphabet containing four letters: A, T, C, G
- The order of these letters is what makes everyone different
- Over 99% of human DNA is the same from person-to-person

FORENSIC DNA REVIEW

➤ Forensics

- Analyzes biological material found at a crime scene or associated with a criminal investigation
- Analyst compares potential suspects and/or victims as the source of the biological material

Forensic STR Markers on Chromosomes (Now testing 23 markers)



<http://www.healforce.com/en/index.php?ac=article&at=read&did=439>



DNA TESTING REQUIRES A REFERENCE SAMPLE

A DNA profile by itself is fairly useless because it has no context...

DNA analysis for identity only works by comparison – you need a reference sample



Crime Scene Evidence compared to **Suspect(s)** (Forensic Case)
Child compared to **Alleged Father** (Paternity Case)
Victim's Remains compared to **Biological Relative** (Mass Disaster ID)
Soldier's Remains compared to **Direct Reference Sample** (Armed Forces ID)

COMPARE EVIDENCE PROFILE TO REFERENCE PROFILES


STR	Evidence	Reference
D3S1358	14,15	14,15
vWA	16,17	16,17
FGA	22,23	22,23
Amelogenin	XY	XY
D8S1179	14,15	14,15
D21S11	28,30	28,30
D18S51	16,18	16,18
D5S818	10,12	10,12
D13S317	12	12
D7S820	10	10
D16S539	11,13	11,13
TH01	7	7
TPOX	8,9	8,9
CSF1PO	9,11	9,11

MATCH!

FORENSIC DNA REVIEW

➤ CODIS

- Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)
- Combines computer and DNA technologies into a powerful tool to generate investigative leads
- Used for linking serial crimes and unsolved cases with repeat offenders




CODIS
COMBINED DNA INDEX SYSTEM


- Database containing DNA profiles from known (references) and unknown (evidence) samples
- Can make case to case connections
- Managed by the Local, State Administrators and the FBI
- Regulated by the FBI
- Match unknown DNA profiles to known DNA profiles
- Generate investigational leads
- Provide support to law enforcement

HOW SEARCHES ARE CONDUCTED:

- Locally
- Statewide
- Nationally



BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE
2015




3021 S.Vernon Road
Zachary, La

BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE

Saturday, July 4, 2015

- Zachary PD received a call from Delmonico Noce
- Found large amount of blood inside his brother's (Robert Noce) home
- He found water running out of the home
- All water faucets in the house – turned on
- Drains clogged with towels and rags



BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE

Saturday, July 4, 2015


- Zachary PD called EBRSO
- Requested assistance
- Large barrel in kitchen with suspected blood on the outside

BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE

- Discover body inside the plastic 55 gallon drum
- Body was head first with heel of foot up
- Covered with bloody towels

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE

- Exterior of House
- Window on end of the mobile home found open ~ 10 inches

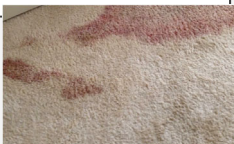




CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE

- Interior of House
- Water on floor and counters
- In 55 gallon drum
 - Pair of discarded latex gloves on top of victim

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE

- Master Bedroom
 - Large stain of suspected blood on carpet
 - Blood spatter on entertainment center door; laundry basket on floor; bed comforter and front side of bathroom door
 - New hole in wall
 - Hand print in dust found on top of a stereo speaker
 - Evidence of a struggle primarily occurring in Master Bedroom
 - Victim's cell phone missing

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of 55-gallon drum & lid • First processed exterior for fingerprints • Latex gloves collected • Drum sealed and removed from residence – brought to EBR Parish Medical Forensic Facility 	

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE	
Sunday, July 5, 2015	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EBR Parish Medical Forensic Facility • Deceased white male • Black leather belt around neck • Hands bound behind back – silver neck tie • Additional brown leather belt and grey neck tie • Fingerprints and DNA collected for identification purposes • Photo comparison – appeared to be Robert Nose – home owner • Autopsy to follow on next day 	

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Evidence Collected • Contact DNA swab from lid of drum, exterior of drum, window (possible point of entry) • Portion of belt from around victim's neck • Evidence delivered to LSPCL on Monday morning 	

<p>INVESTIGATION HISTORY OF VICTIM</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Noce • Recently pleaded “no contest” to charges of inappropriate sexual contact with a minor (Brittany Monk) • Monk lived at residence with him several years prior

<p>INVESTIGATION QUESTIONING OF BRITTANY MONK</p>
<p>Saturday, July 4, 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brittany Monk – located and taken to EBR VCU for questioning • Admitted knowing Robert Noce • Stated she had not been inside the victim's residence in several years and that her DNA would not be found inside the residence • Said she was not at the victim's house and knew nothing about his murder • Said people were upset that Robert Noce had only received 5 years probation • Said her step-father Gerald Dixon was upset about the probation and that he wasn't really going to get away with abusing her • Voluntarily submitted an oral reference swab



<p>INVESTIGATION</p>
<p>Monday, July 6, 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autopsy performed • Victim suffered multiple stab wounds and was strangled

CRIME LAB FORENSIC ANALYSIS

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

- Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory expedited the DNA evidence
- **Located pink fingernail polish inside used glove inside of the barrel**

CRIME LAB FORENSIC ANALYSIS

• DNA matched the known DNA swab from Brittany Monk

CRIME LAB FORENSIC ANALYSIS

Leather belt from around the victim's neck	Tie from victim's hands
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[illegible]

- Jace Crehan developed as a person of interest (POI) – boyfriend to Brittany Monk
- Brought to the EBR Violent Crime Unit for questioning



POI INTERVIEW

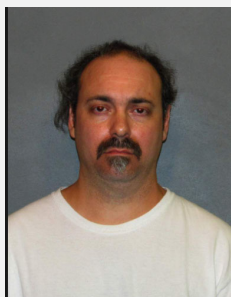
- Admitted that he and Brittany Monk entered victim's residence
- Struggle ensued
- Strangled and stabbed the victim
- Placed victim in the 55-gallon drum

EBRSO ARREST COUPLE



Both Brittany Monk and Jace Crehan arrested in homicide of Robert Noce

VICTIM'S BACKGROUND
ROBERT NOCE, JR.



- Former boyfriend of Brittany Monk's mother
- Two weeks before murder – pleaded "no contest" to molesting Monk as a child
- Monk expected Noce to get 10 years at hard labor
- Judge suspended 10-year term and put him on probation for 5 years

TRIAL

Walker woman pleads guilty to manslaughter in 2015 slaying of her convicted molester

BY JOE GYAN JR. | JGVANTHEADVOCATE.COM JUN 26, 2017 - 1:20 PM 3 min to read

June 2017

- Brittany Monk plead guilty
- Agrees to testify in case against Jace Crehan

TRIAL

Jace Crehan trial: Girlfriend gives chilling account of fatal stabbing, strangulation of convicted molester

BY JOE GYAN JR. | JGVANTHEADVOCATE.COM DEC 12, 2017 - 7:35 PM 3 min to read

December 12, 2017

- Brittany Monk testifies
- States – Crehan’s idea to beat up Noce and tie him up
- Says that she wanted to go – wanted to see him suffer
- Testified that Noce was a former boyfriend of her mother – endured his sexual abuse from age 4 to 12 – Noce began paying her \$100 for sex

TRIAL



December 14, 2017

- Jury finds Jace Crehan guilty of 2nd degree murder in 2015 killing of his girlfriend’s convicted molester

BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE UPDATE

Judge decries 'vigilante justice' of Jace Crehan, Brittany Monk after sentencing in slaying of Monk's molester

BY JOE EVAN JR. | JOEVAN@THEADVOCATE.COM JAN 19, 2018 - 11:00 AM 3 min to read

2018 - Sentencing

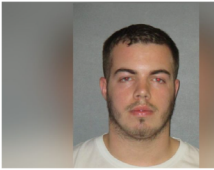
- Jace Crehan – Life in prison without parole
- Brittany Monk – 35-year prison term




BODY IN BARREL HOMICIDE UPDATE

Due to new nonunanimous jury rule, man serving life sentence for killing his girlfriend's rapist may get new trial


May 31, 2020 5:00 PM A News Source: The Advocate By: WERC Staff



Based on a New Orleans County recent decision to vacate nonunanimous jury verdicts and who has been serving a life sentence for killing the man who molested his girlfriend. Photo: The Advocate

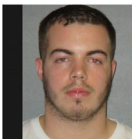
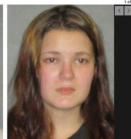
Convicted Baton Rouge killer to get new trial; non-unanimous jury verdicts cited as reason

By: Jace Walker | JACE@THEADVOCATE.COM | PUBLISHED JAN 26, 2017 AT 10:00 PM | UPDATED JAN 26, 2017 AT 4:00 PM 3 min to read



Will Walker man's girlfriend testify again in slaying of convicted molester? 'No agreements' yet

By: Jace Walker | JACE@THEADVOCATE.COM | PUBLISHED JAN 26, 2017 AT 10:00 PM | UPDATED JAN 26, 2017 AT 4:00 PM 3 min to read

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Questions?

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