INVESTIGATION UPDATE: ARREST MADE IN THE HOMICIDE CASES OF PATRICIA AND ROBERT WILSON

The DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office announces the arrest of JOHNATHAN D HURST M/W 02/13/1969 (51 YOA) formerly of 1446 N Wells Street #2 Chicago, and currently resides at 457 Lloyd Place Cincinnati, Ohio. He was taken into custody on Monday, February 24, 2020, just after 4 PM CST in Cincinnati, Ohio with the assistance of the Cincinnati Police Department. Currently, he is being held at the Hamilton County Jail and is awaiting extradition back to Illinois where he will face two (2) counts of First Degree Murder.

On August 15, 2016, just before 6 PM, the Sheriff’s Office responded to 16058 Old State Road in rural Sycamore where Patricia A. Wilson (85 YOA) and her son Robert J. Wilson (64 YOA) were found deceased inside of the residence from blunt force trauma. Investigators determined that the homicides occurred during the late evening hours of August 14, 2016.

The following depicts a timeline of events that occurred on August 14, 2016:

- August 14, 2016, Patricia and Robert attend Sunday Morning Service at 9:15 am at St. John’s Lutheran Church on Brickville Road in Sycamore.
- After Service, Patricia and Robert had breakfast with friends at Sycamore Café at approximately 10:30 am.
- Robert and Patricia returned home, and he later leaves for the Sycamore Moose Lodge at approximately 12:00 pm.

- Robert left the Moose Lodge in the late afternoon and goes home at approximately 4:30 pm.

- Patricia spoke with a relative on the telephone at approximately 7:43 pm on August 14, 2016.

- The Wilson’s white Impala is recorded by a traffic camera after midnight traveling east on IL State Route 64 at Route 59 at 00:44 am, on August 15, 2016.

- The Impala is documented on a CTA bus video parked on North Stockton, in Chicago on August 15, 2016, at 11:58 am.

- The Sheriff’s Office received the call for a death investigation at 16058 Old State Road just before 6 pm on August 15, 2016.

- The DeKalb County Major Case Squad was activated at approximately 6:45 pm.

- The Wilson’s white Impala is located by the Chicago Police Department on North Stockton near the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago on August 24, 2016.

During the course of this investigation, more than 1300 leads have been developed and followed up on as well as several search warrants for items such as video/DVD recordings, phone records, and the victims’ house. This crime had a significant amount of physical evidence that was collected by investigators while processing the crime scene. We have worked closely with the Illinois State Crime Lab which did an excellent job analyzing and processing this evidence. A complete DNA profile was obtained from evidence within the crime scene which allowed investigators to use this profile and along with other investigative techniques several persons of interest were able to be eliminated as suspects.
Later, the Sheriff’s Office enlisted the help from a private laboratory called Parabon, which specializes in DNA phenotyping, and in 2018 we released 3 Snapshot composites representing scientific approximations of appearance based on DNA that was found in the crime scene. **It is important to note that Snapshot composites are scientific approximations of appearance based on DNA, and not likely to be exact replicas of appearance.**

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Detectives from the Sheriff’s Office along with Parabon continued to investigate the genealogical side of this case and searched public genealogy databases in the effort to narrow down the scope of the DNA profile and built a family tree that eventually led to this individual from the DNA that had been found within the crime scene. This work took an extraordinary amount of effort and a significant amount of time to locate this offender, and through this effort approximately 1 week ago, a solid lead was identified using this unique profile along with continued diligent investigative techniques that led us to make this announcement today. We were also able to confirm through cell phone records and other evidence that he was in the area of the crime on the day of the murders and also that the vehicle that was stolen from the house was located in Lincoln Park which was a short distance from where he lived on Wells Street in Chicago.

I would like to thank the Cincinnati Police Department specifically Chief Isaac, Lieutenant Dave Johnston, Sergeant Eric Vogelpohl, and Detectives Sandy Sieving, Bob Randolph, Dave Gregory and Greg Gehring of the Cincinnati Ohio Police Department along with
the Hamilton County Coroner’s Office, Serologist Joan Burke and Criminalist Don Werling for their assistance in apprehending this individual. I cannot express the amount of gratitude and the extraordinary efforts of your exemplary officers and detectives from this agency who went above and beyond in helping with surveillance and the ultimate apprehension of this individual.

AGAIN, THANK YOU

We would like to thank all of the members of the DeKalb County Major Case Squad, DeKalb Police Commander Bob Redel, Sycamore Deputy Chief Mike Anderson, retired Sheriff’s Detective Sergeant Brad Carls, the DeKalb County State’s Attorney Rick Amato, First Assitant Stephanie Klein and the rest of his Office, DeKalb County Coroner Dennis Miller, Parabon NanoLabs, The DeKalb, Sycamore, NIU, and Sandwich Police Departments, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Illinois State Crime Lab, the Illinois State Police, Cook County Sheriff’s Police, the Chicago Police Department, and to all of the members of the Sheriff’s Office who worked on this case, and to all of the detectives of the Sheriff’s Office, John Holiday, Josh Duehning, Jeremy Grubbs, Jackie Lane, Grant Erickson, Alex Becker, Detective Sergeant Dave Aranda, and retired detective Lindie Baumann. Everyone continued to show perseverance and never gave up on this case or for seeking justice for the Wilson family. During this investigation, countless hours have been spent continually working to bring this person to justice for the horrific and unprovoked acts of violence, and for that the DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office is truly grateful.

Our hearts and prayers remain with the members of the Wilson family who have remained patient and given their unwavering support of the Sheriff’s Office during this complex investigation. We hope that they may attempt to start the healing process as we hold Jonathan Hurst accountable for the murders of Robert and Patricia Wilson.
This is an active investigation and if anyone has pertinent information please contact Crime Stoppers at 815-895-3272 or email Crime Stoppers at Crimestoppers@dekalbcounty.org. Callers to Crime Stoppers are not required to give their name and can remain anonymous if they choose. In addition to Crime Stoppers, citizens with pertinent information can please contact the Sheriff’s Office at 815-895-2155.

Sheriff Roger Scott

Chief Deputy Andy Sullivan