



INGLEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

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May 12, 2010

ARREST MADE IN 15 YEAR OLD COLD HOMICIDE CASE

On Thursday, May 6, 2010, Inglewood Police detectives arrested Donald Bridgewater for the October 28, 1995, murder of William Goins. This cold case was one of several hundred being reviewed by the Inglewood Police Department's Cold Case Unit and marks the first arrest as a result of the unit's investigative work in a re-opened homicide case.

The Inglewood Police Department's "Cold Case Unit" was formed in March 2008 with grant funds obtained from the National Institute of Justice. The unit was implemented to review, prioritize, and investigate 472 unsolved murders that occurred in the City of Inglewood since 1971. The Cold Case Unit is staffed by three civilian investigators, that are retired Police Homicide Detectives, and are under the purview of the Homicide Section.

On Saturday, October 28, 1995, the victim, William Goins, a male Black adult, age 71, was discovered deceased on the living room floor of his single family residence located in the 10600 block of 2nd Avenue, in the City of Inglewood. Mr. Goins had multiple stab wounds to his head and neck area and evidence at the time suggested that Mr. Goins had struggled with his attacker prior to his death. Shortly after the incident, Homicide Detectives followed up on several leads and possible suspects, but no arrest was made in the case. Donald Bridgewater was one of several persons suspected in the homicide at the time.

With the implementation of the newly formed Inglewood Cold Case Unit, the Goins case was re-opened and physical evidence from the crime scene was submitted for forensic DNA analysis at the Orange County Crime Lab. The analysis on several items from the scene identified Donald Bridgewater as the suspect. The case was subsequently presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office and an arrest warrant was issued for Donald Bridgewater. Mr. Bridgewater was taken into custody on Thursday, May 06, 2010, and the District Attorney's Office filed one count of murder. The suspect remains in custody and bail has been set at \$1 million dollars.

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