



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
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NEWS RELEASE

Incident Date and Time: July 7, 1992

Location: Unincorporated San Mateo County Coast, CA.

Type of Crime/Incident: **PC 187-Murder**

Suspect: **Gregory Marc Riviera-Deceased**

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Detectives close a 30-Year-Old Cold Case Homicide.

Fingerprint analysis confirm the identity and location of Gregory Marc Riviera, the single suspect in the murder of 25-year-old Juliette Rivera.

On 07/07/1992, Juliette Rivera, a 25-year-old from the City of Alameda, was reported missing, and the Alameda Police Department initiated a missing person investigation. Alameda Police Department Investigators contacted Gregory Marc Riviera, a 50-year-old acquaintance of Juliette's, who also lived in the City of Alameda. During their investigation, numerous inconsistencies in Riviera's statement led the Alameda Police Department Detectives to suspect Riviera of potential involvement in Juliette's disappearance.

On 07/17/1992, a farm worker in a rural area of unincorporated San Mateo County South Coast area found the body of a badly decomposed young female near an irrigation pond. The body was later identified as Juliette Rivera. The autopsy showed Juliette suffered blunt force trauma from a flat object to the left rear skull.

San Mateo County Sheriff's Detectives conducted a comprehensive investigation, and on 08/07/1992, a warrant was issued in San Mateo County for Gregory Marc Riviera, charging him with the murder of Juliette Rivera. Gregory Marc Riviera abandoned his apartment in Alameda on or about 07/29/1992 and has eluded law enforcement for 30 years.



On Thursday, 5/12/2022, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office received a call from the Merced County Coroner's Office advising a local transient identified as "Jon Paul" passed away on 01/29/2022. To locate next of kin, the Merced County Coroner's Office conducted a fingerprint analysis. The results revealed the fingerprints matched Abraham Rivera: AKA **Gregory Marc Riviera**. Further, the Coroner's Office located the active warrant for Riviera's arrest for murder out of San Mateo County.

Based on the new information, San Mateo County Sheriff's Detectives worked with Merced County Coroner to confirm the deceased person to be Gregory Marc Riviera. In their investigation, they learned Gregory had a brother by the name of John Paul. Merced County Coroner spoke to John Paul's daughter, and she confirmed John Paul was still alive, but suffering with medical issues. She added Gregory and his brother had used each other's identity for the past 30 years to elude law enforcement.

Based on this investigation with the identity of suspect Abraham Rivera AKA Gregory Marc Riviera AKA Jon Paul, finally located and now deceased, this case is closed.

The closure of this 30-year-old cold case homicide could not have been possible without the assistance of the Alameda Police Department, the Merced County Sheriff's Office and Coroner Bureau, and the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office. Thank you all for your collaboration and tremendous work.

With the accumulated unsolved cases throughout the years, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office maintains a Cold Case Unit as a function of the Investigations Bureau. The Cold Case Unit assists Sheriff's Detectives by revisiting cases once considered "unsolvable" after consideration of the following:

- Advancements in Forensic Technology
- Changes in Relationships Over Time
- New Leads through Fresh Reviews
- Increased Public Support and Interest
- Improved Information Management

Cold cases are just as crucial to our detectives as are current issues. We are constantly reviewing them and looking for new leads. We know that every cold case represents long-awaited answers for the family and friends of victims. Thanks to the hard work of our detectives and law enforcement partners, we can now bring a measure of closure and healing to the Rivera family.

Family and friends of all victims awaiting justice for crimes committed in our county, you will not be forgotten by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

Anyone with information about this crime is encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Investigations Bureau – Cold Case Unit at coldcase@smcgov.org.



Written by: Public Information Officer Javier Acosta

Case #92-19911

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