

Live Presentation
Tuesday, September 16
7:00 – 8:30 PM MST
Boise State University
Charles P. Ruch Engineering Building
(RUCH) Building
Room 110

Zoom Meeting Link:

https://boisestate.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN AMhbunL3RC

Please note preregistration is required to attend via Zoom.

Solving a Cold Case Homicide in Jerome, Idaho using DNA and Dedicated Detective Work—Finding Justice for Wilma

This presentation will provide a case overview of the murder of Wilma Mobley. She was 84-years old in the summer of 1995 when she was strangled to death in her own home in Jerome, Idaho.

Following the murder, three possible suspects were identified, but due to a lack of concrete evidence identifying the killer, the case went cold. Jerome Police Department detectives continued to work the case throughout the years, but there weren't any major leads until 2022 when Sergeant Clinton Wagner reviewed the case. Due to advances in DNA science since 1995, Sergeant Wagner contacted the Idaho State Police Forensics Lab to see if any of the evidence from the scene could be submitted for DNA analysis. The evidence that qualified for this analysis was sent to the lab for testing in March of 2023.

On December 18, 2023, DNA analysts from the Idaho State Police Forensics Lab reported finding a significant amount of a DNA profile matching Danny Lee Kennison on the victim's clothing. Danny Kennison and Wilma Mobley were neighbors at the time of the homicide, and Kennison had been identified as a possible suspect early in the investigation. Despite Danny Lee Kennison passing in 2001, justice has been served for Wilma Mobley and her family.



Sergeant Clinton Wagner has worked in law enforcement for 20 years. He began his career in 2005 with the Jerome County Sheriff's Office, where he initially worked in the jail before moving over to patrol. In 2012, Sgt. Wager transferred to the Jerome Police Department where he worked as a patrol officer, and eventually promoting to Sergeant. In 2022, Sgt. Wagner was promoted to Detective Sergeant and began supervising the investigations unit. He currently oversees Investigations, all of the School Resource Officers, Property, and Evidence.

ISPFS DNA Supervisor Katie White began her forensic science career in 2008 as a Forensic Biologist with the Denver Police Department. In 2012, Katie worked as a DNA Technician for Ideal Innovations Inc., before moving to Texas to work for the Texas Department of Public Safety as a Forensic Scientist III in 2014. Katie has been with the Idaho State Police since 2016 and currently serves as a Forensic Scientist III/Supervisor for the Biology Unit, the State CODIS Administrator, is a member of the Idaho Cold Case Advanced DNA Methods Working Group and is the Designated Laboratory Official for the ISP Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Group.

