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Remains found in Idaho identified as missing Springdale man

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LEMHI COUNTY, Idaho (KNWA/KFTA) — Human remains found near an Idaho river have been identified as a Springdale man who was reported missing nearly six years ago.

Bobby Lee Rodriguez was last seen on Sept. 30, 2019, in Springdale, according to then-Attorney General Leslie Rutledge.



The Lemhi County Sheriff's Office in northeast Idaho was notified about Rodriguez's disappearance on Nov. 8, 2019. LCSO said he was last seen near Wagonhammer Spring.

A [post from the sheriff's office](#) said that Rodriguez was reportedly dropped off near Wagonhammer Spring by a taxi. LCSO reported that Rodriguez told the taxi driver he was traveling to the area to see a relative who was camping.

Rodriguez reportedly was in possession of a gun, which was a gift for the relative he was seeing, LCSO said in the post.

An LCSO deputy canvassed the area, and no one had seen Rodriguez or anyone matching his description.

LCSO said it maintained contact with the Springdale Police Department; however, the case eventually ran cold due to no new leads. On Nov. 10, 2025, the sheriff's office received a report of human remains being found west of North Fork, Idaho.

The caller said they had been fishing on the Salmon River and got cold. He climbed up a hill for warmth and that was when they found the remains. Deputies found that the remains were mostly skeletal. The remains and various personal items at the scene had been in the elements for some time, according to LCSO. A rusted shotgun with a spent hull in the chamber was found along with a note.

LCSO said the remains were collected and transferred to the Lemhi County Coroner's Office, where they were held until identification could be determined.

Clothing collected from the scene was later compared to a photo taken of Rodriguez the day he went missing and appeared to be the same, the post said.

The shotgun was traced through ATF as being purchased by Rodriguez days before he was reported missing.

"Remains were later positively identified as that of Bobby Lee Rodriguez by DNA match to a relative. Through the course of this investigation, there was no evidence collected that suggested foul play," the sheriff's office said.

LCSO said that in addition to the Springdale Police Department, the Idaho State Police SAKI Cold Case Division, the Idaho State Police Forensic Services, the Idaho Falls City Police Department, the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and the Salt Lake City Police Department contributed to the investigation.