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IN THE COMBINED COURTS  
DOUGLAS COUNTY, CO

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District Attorney's Office

State of Colorado, County of Douglas

Cheryl A. Layne  
CLERK OF THE COURT  
DATE FILED: December 9, 2019  
COMBINED COURTS

**Affidavit For Arrest Warrant**

I, Detective Shannon Jensen 1531, of lawful age and being first sworn upon oath, state that I have probable cause for believing that:

Defendant: James Curtis Clanton, AKA Curtis Allen W DOB: 03/21/1957

did commit the crime(s) of:

- Murder in the First Degree 18-3-102 (1) (a) F1
- Murder in the First Degree 18-3-102 (1) (b) F1
- Second Degree Kidnapping 18-3-301 (1) (a) F4

On or between 01/16/1980

, including within Daniels Park Road, Unincorporated Douglas County Douglas County, Colorado and as grounds therefore, state as follows: That this Affiant is a Peace Officer with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office

Your affiant is a detective with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office currently assigned to the Cold Case Unit, whose function is to investigate and solve cold cases in Douglas County. I have been a law enforcement officer for 11 years. I have been a deputy with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office since 2015 and I have been a detective since 2016. Your affiant personally obtained the information contained in this affidavit by talking to other commissioned police officers and witnesses and by reading the official police reports from local law enforcement agencies, and the Douglas County Sheriff's Office case 80-200. Your affiant learned the following information from those reports.

**SUMMARY**

Helene Pruszynski was raped and murdered on January 16, 1980. Her body was left bound with her hands tied behind her back, partially naked, and stabbed, to be found the following morning in a vacant field in what is today Highlands Ranch, Unincorporated Douglas County, Colorado.

The case was initially investigated by detectives from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office with assistance from the Colorado Bureau of Investigations. Contemporaneously, detectives from Englewood Police Department were investigating a missing person report initiated in their jurisdiction.

During the weeks leading up to the disappearance of Ms. Pruszynski, Englewood had experienced a series of sexual assaults in the area from which it is believed Ms. Pruszynski

disappeared, and the Englewood Police were investigating her disappearance as possibly being related to those crimes.

The primary investigation stalled in the spring of 1981 without detectives having identified a suspect. However, the suspect had left his semen on the victim's body and clothing leaving the possibility that as technology advanced, he could be positively identified and connected to the crime scene.

Since that time personnel of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office have revisited the investigation to review evidence, developed new leads and probe new technologies in the effort to identify and apprehend the suspect in this case. In 2017 the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Cold Case Unit reviewed technological advances in an emerging field known as genetic genealogy and attempted to identify family members of a potential suspect. Through work with two separate private companies, Parabon NanoLabs based out of Virginia, and United Data Connect, a Colorado-based company, as well as private and publicly available information on genealogy research tools such as Ancestry.com and GEDmatch.com, your affiant identified a potential suspect. A comparison of the suspect's brother's DNA revealed that the YSTR (male-specific) profile was a match to the brother and all the male relatives sharing the same paternal lineage. A surreptitiously collected DNA sample confirmed that suspect, James Curtis Clanton (DOB March 21, 1957), previously known as Curtis Allen White (DOB February 10, 1958), was the source of the semen left at the scene.

### **INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

Investigator Don McLennan, Englewood Police, reported that on January 16, 1980, Ms. Pruszyński failed to return home as expected and Mrs. Wanda Blixt, filed a missing person report with Englewood Police at about 10:30 pm. The report was taken by Officer Richard Welbourne. Investigators learned from Mrs. Henrietta Pruszyński, Helene's mother, and Mrs. Blixt that Ms. Pruszyński was known to be punctual, never accepted rides from strangers, and did not date while she was in Denver.

On January 18, 1980, Mrs. Wanda Blixt, Ms. Pruszyński's aunt, informed Agent Gerald Tesch, Colorado Bureau of Investigations that at the time of her disappearance, Helene Pruszyński was visiting Denver from Boston. She was here to complete a student internship at KHOW Radio.

She had traveled to Denver with a female friend, Kitsy Snow, and the two were staying with Ms. Pruszyński's aunt and her family in Englewood, at 4644 South Pennsylvania Street. Ms. Pruszyński traveled to and from her job at KHOW Studios on the RTD bus route that served the Broadway corridor.

On January 17, 1980, Douglas County Sheriff's Office Deputies, James Kimble, Dale Row and Asa Ratliff responded to Daniels Park Road. Deputy Kimble reported a passerby, Berniece Buttram, discovered a body approximately 250 feet off Daniels Park Road between McArthur Ranch Road on the south and Highway 470 on the north. Ms. Buttram flagged down a County grader operator, Leonard Tabor, who in turn summoned the Sheriff's Office at 9:18 am that morning. Mr. Tabor told Deputy James Kimble, DCSO, that he had come within approximately ten feet of the body but did not disturb it. Douglas County Coroner, John Andrews would later identify the body as Helene Pruszyński. CBI Agents Ted Ritter and Gerald Tesch photographed and processed the entire crime scene and collected items of physical evidence.

While the area Ms. Pruszyński was located has changed substantially over the years, at the time Ms. Pruszyński was discovered it was undeveloped as shown in the photograph taken as the scene:



On January 17, 1980, Agent Tesch, CBI, reported that the victim was nude from the waist down, wearing green knee socks, a navy blue ¾ length coat with purple lining, a green pullover V-neck sweater and a white turtleneck, gold earrings and a fine gold chain necklace. In addition, she had a green fabric and a white mitten loosely tied around her neck (I reviewed the photographs taken of the victim at the scene and observed that she also had her hands bound behind her back).

Bob Scott, Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, who also worked part time at KHOW Radio, arrived on scene and identified the body as Helene Pruszynski and stated she was still wearing the clothing in which she was last seen. When interviewed, Mrs. Blixt stated that on January 16, 1980, Ms. Pruszynski was wearing a navy blue ¾ length coat, beige corduroy slacks, brown suede shoes with red crepe soles (size 6, Bass brand), a white turtle neck under a dark sweater, carrying a brown leather purse with a shoulder strap.

After Ms. Pruszynski's body was discovered, Mrs. Katherine Freese contacted law enforcement and related that she had seen a possible suspect and vehicle at the dump site on January 16, 1980, at or about 10:20 pm. She provided investigators with a vehicle description, described the possible suspect's features and clothing description, and described the behaviors that she saw. She described the man as:

Male, 20 to 30 years of age.  
Possibly Caucasian  
5'9" to 5'10"  
130 -140 lbs.  
Brown, medium length hair, "over the ears"  
Possibly wearing a mustache  
Wearing what appeared to be casual clothing, dark pants, light-colored shirt with sleeves rolled up.

Agent Roy Taylor, CBI, used the information gleaned from Mrs. Freese to create a composite drawing of the suspect. Later, under hypnosis, Mrs. Freese provided additional information from which Littleton Police Sergeant R. Lindgren created an updated composite sketch.

The investigators' theory of the crime was that Ms. Pruszynski left KHOW Studios as usual on January 16, 1980, taking the Route 0 bus destined for Englewood. Her normal bus stop was South Broadway and Union Avenue, Englewood, CO. Witnesses Patty Ann Hull, Dorothy Glinkman, and Bob Holland helped established Ms. Pruszynski rode and got off the bus between 5:57 and 6:30 pm at Union Avenue and South Broadway, Englewood.

Forensic Pathologist Dr. Ben Galloway conducted the autopsy of Ms. Pruszynski on January 17, 1980 at approximately 6:00 pm. Dr. Galloway opined the following:

- Time of death was sometime between 8:00 pm and 10:00 pm, plus or minus two hours.
- Findings included evidence of sexual assault, including the suspect's semen and sperm.
- "The autopsy findings in this case reveal the cause of death is due to extensive blood loss secondary to multiple stab wounds of the back involving both lungs. In addition, both lungs are collapsed."
- Trauma around Ms. Pruszynski's anal area indicating that something had been inserted into her anus.
- He also noted that from the bruising, scrapes and dirt on the victim's knees, she had knelt without any clothing covering her knees.

He also expressed concern over the lack of defensive wounds on Ms. Pruszynski.

Evidence collected during the initial investigation includes casts made by Agent Ritter of footwear impressions located at the scene where Ms. Pruszynski was found. Claude Cook, CBI, examined the footwear casts and stated it appeared to have been left by a Western-style boot, probably size 9 to 11.

During the initial investigation, Agent Kilmer, CBI Laboratory, processed many items of evidence in their efforts to identify a suspect using various forensic methods available at the time. Some of the key pieces of evidence were:

- Plaster cast of shoe or boot impression
- Plaster cast of heel impression
- Dark green knee socks from victim's right and left feet
- Navy blue  $\frac{3}{4}$  length coat from victim
- Swab from victim's right breast
- Vaginal swab from victim
- Vaginal smear from victim
- Anal swab from victim

- Anal smear from victim

They also developed and eliminated several men as potential suspects, using various methods. This included Henry Lucas and Otis Toole who both separately confessed to the kidnaping and murder of Helene Pruszyński. However, both were eliminated as suspects through DNA analysis. The investigation laid dormant for many years after the available leads appeared to have yielded only negative results.

### **1998 – RENEWED INVESTIGATIONS**

On December 10, 1998, Sergeant Holly Nicholson-Kluth, Lieutenant Tony Spurlock, and Captain Bill Walker, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, met with Englewood Police Department and CBI and discussed re-opening the Pruszyński homicide investigation. Holly Nicholson-Kluth, Englewood Police Detective Clay Forington, and CBI Investigator Frank Vanecek were assigned as a task force.

Their re-opening this case focused on re-analyzing evidence obtained throughout the initial investigation and submitting possible evidence for DNA extraction and analysis due to the changes in technology since this case was first investigated. They gathered and compiled reports from the original investigations.

The task force learned that CBI had never done any DNA work on the suspect evidence. CBI reported that the state of the science had changed dramatically since the Pruszyński murder. The laboratory recommended that they analyze the evidence to generate a new all-encompassing DNA profile which would be used for future comparison with suspects.

In 1998, CBI developed the suspect DNA profile and uploaded it into CODIS. Agent Kathy Dressel used a DQALPHA kit to process the DNA. I know from my experience investigating cold cases that CODIS is the acronym for the Combined DNA Index System. It enables federal, state and local forensic laboratories to exchange and compare DNA profiles electronically, thereby linking crimes to each other and to known offenders. When a profile is entered into CODIS and does not produce a match, the database also serves to eliminate all other offenders who are already entered into the system. At the time the profile was uploaded into CODIS, there

were no matches generated. The profile has continued to search against known offenders in the CODIS database without a match generating any new leads in the years since its entry.

After Michele Kennedy, DCSO Crime Analyst, entered detailed data about Ms. Pruszynski's murder into FBI's ViCAP (Violent Criminal Apprehension Program), a summary of known case details were generated for Ms. Kennedy (ViCAP number 2000DOU00003) which stated that the victim was probably undressed and sexually assaulted in a vehicle. She was taken to a field and stabbed nine times in the back. The scene indicated that the victim was probably kneeling and giving the suspect oral sex. A possible vehicle was near the scene and described as a "light colored Mustang, 1965-1972." The vehicle had a possible plate of SF1037 and damage to the rocker panel on the driver's side. The suspect was described as 18-25 years of age, 6 feet tall, with a pointed nose and a prominent Adams apple. This summary was shared with other ViCAP entries in hopes of generating new leads.

### **DOUGLAS COUNTY COLD CASE INVESTIGATION**

In 2013, Sheriff Tony Spurlock created a multidisciplinary Cold Case Unit to reevaluate and investigate cold cases that had occurred in Douglas County's jurisdiction.

On January 24, 2013, Detective Angela Spezzano of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office arranged with CBI for them to conduct familial DNA testing. CBI's familial DNA testing identified 8 females possibly related to the suspect but did not provide any viable leads.

The DNA entry into CODIS did not produce any investigative leads at the time, and the ViCAP report also did not result in new leads. The case again went cold. In the following years, investigators worked on the case, but did not yield any promising leads. The investigation did not fully renew until 2017.

On January 20, 2017, Detective Jason Cirbo inquired of the Colorado Department of Revenue Motor Vehicle Investigations Unit, how far back vehicle registrations in the State of Colorado go, as he was looking to find who, between 1978 and 1980, had a yellow Trans Am or Firebird registered to them. His interest in Firebirds and Trans Ams came from a witness statement in a

separate attempted abduction that occurred in Englewood. Detective Cirbo exhausted leads associated with this avenue of investigation and cleared a potential suspect through DNA.

Detective Cirbo then engaged Parabon Snapshot DNA Phenotyping Service to conduct forensic genealogy using the suspect's DNA profile that we had. I confirmed with genealogist Joan Hanlon that forensic genealogy allows a genealogist to build family trees starting with people who are deceased to find living persons who are possible suspects based on partial DNA matches to a suspect.

According to Detective Cirbo's report, Agent Missy Woods advised him that she did not have a suitable amount of suspect DNA for forensic genealogy with the samples currently in CBI's possession. On November 27, 2019 I contacted Agent Woods by phone, and she told me Detective Cirbo sent her a viable sample cut from Ms. Pruszynski's blue coat (black fabric) in 2018 that was suitable for forensic genealogy. She said that the new profile that was developed from the cutting of Ms. Pruszynski's coat matched the previously developed DNA profiles. Those profiles were generated by Kathy Dressel in 1998, Ron Arndt in 2005, Missy Woods in 2010 and matched the original profile that had been entered into CODIS. According to Agent Woods, the extracted DNA was sent back to Detective Cirbo who sent it to Parabon for DNA sequencing, a service that, at the time, CBI did not perform. Agent Missy Woods reported on November 18, 2018, in part:

*Male DNA was detected in the sperm fraction of the swab from the inside of the empty tube labeled "swab-vaginal" (Item 128.3.1) and in the non-sperm fractions of the swab from the inside of the empty tube labeled "swab-vaginal" (Item 128.3.1) and the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1).*

*The DNA profile developed from the sperm fraction of the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1) indicates a mixture of two contributors [I confirmed with CBI that only one contributor to the mixture was male]. The major component of this mixture is indicative of an unknown male donor. Due to the limited amount of interpretable genetic information, the minor component is not suitable for comparisons.*

*A YSTR profile was developed from the sperm fraction of the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1).*

*The major component of the DNA profile developed from the sperm fraction of Item 128.5.1 has been entered into the CODIS DNA database. State and national searches will be performed on a routine basis and any future matches will be reported to the investigating officer.*

*A portion of the extracted DNA from the sperm fraction of the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1) has been packaged into DNA packet 9 for submission to Parabon Nanotechnologies.*

On December 7, 2019, Your Affiant spoke with Thom Shaw, Parabon Nano Labs. He stated that when Parabon received 25 nanograms of extracted DNA from the semen found at the scene of the murder, the DNA was sent to DNA Solutions for “genotyping on the Illumina CytoSNP-850k chip at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation.”

On January 14, 2019, Parabon generated information for upload into various public genetic genealogy databases, including GEDmatch.com, which this affiant knows has been utilized by other law enforcement agencies to identify suspect in cold cases, including identifying the Golden State Killer. Parabon provided Detective Cirbo with a GEDmatch kit# for the suspect, DNA, KV7675530, and he uploaded the kit to GEDmatch. Detective Cirbo worked with Parabon genealogist CeCe Moore to create family trees in their effort to identify a suspect.

Your Affiant has learned that GEDmatch uses autosomal DNA files from various testing companies or other sources to allow meaningful comparisons between DNA kits.

The GEDmatch upload did not generate a perfect match to a suspect. However, several potential distant relatives were identified, based on the number of centimorgans in common with the suspect.

Based on my conversations with genealogist Joan Hanlon, a centimorgan is a unit of measure for DNA. One's total shared centimorgans tells them how much DNA they share with another match. In general, the more DNA one shares with a match, the higher the centimorgan number will be and the more closely related they are.

Please note that because this investigation led through many innocent relatives of the suspect, those family members will be identified here simply by their initials to continue to protect their privacy.

Detective Cirbo's report stated that Parabon's top two matches were listed as a K.V.L. and a N.D. An example of the results is depicted in Table 1. The top match, K.V.L., was estimated to be about 2.9 generations removed from the unknown donor (suspect) DNA. Both K.V.L. and N.D. authorized law enforcement to access their family trees on Ancestry.com. N.D. also allowed law enforcement to access her DNA results on Ancestry.com. Using K.V.L. and N.D. family trees, Parabon's genealogists identified a common ancestor. Mayme Tillett (the Tillett line was also present in K.V.L. family tree), who was married to John Welch Estes. Mayme and John had two children, John Estes, Jr. and June Elizabeth Estes. After John died, Mayme later married Charles Long and had several more children with him.

**Table 1**

Name	Total cM	Gen
K.V.L.	239.8	3
N.D.	211	3
S.D.	169.2	3.2
A.C.	130.6	3.4
M.P.	76.4	3.8
K.D.	63.5	3.9
R.D.	56.6	4
M.D.	52.7	4
G.M.	52.5	4

Detective Cirbo's and Parabon's analysis determined that the most probable suspect was one of June Elizabeth Estes' four male children. Two of June's sons were eliminated as suspects

because they were ten and eleven years old, respectively, when Helene Pruszynski was murdered. The other two sons at this point were unidentified.

Parabon identified a possible suspect through California birth index. According to a report provided by Parabon on March 13, 2019, they theorized that June Estes bore a child in California who she gave up for adoption. That child, originally named William White, was adopted and “his birth certificate was amended to the name R.D.”

R.D. was then investigated as a possible suspect. He fit the suspect profile because he was a student at the Colorado School of Mines at the time of the murder where he graduated in 1982. At the time he was identified as a suspect, he was living in Arizona with his family.

On March 6, 2019, several detectives from the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office and I went to Arizona to surveil R.D. and surreptitiously collected his DNA.

On March 9, 2019, I watched R.D. discard a water bottle in a trash can. I collected the water bottle as evidence.

On March 11, 2019, Jason Cirbo delivered the water bottle to CBI for DNA analysis. According to the report authored by Agent Woods on March 22, 2019, R.D. was eliminated as a suspect; his DNA does not match the DNA left by the suspect in the Pruszynski murder.

In 2019, Metro Denver Crime Stoppers agreed to fund additional genetic genealogy work on this case using a local company called United Data Connect. United Data Connect employs Joan Hanlon, a local genealogist. Because she is local, I have almost immediate access to her with my questions and research.

Joan Hanlon has worked as a full-time professional genealogist since 2014 but was first certified by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in 2007. In 2012, she was further credentialed by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy with a certificate in American Records of Research, and again in 2016 for Advanced Methodologies.

R.D.'s elimination caused me and Ms. Hanlon to revisit a key investigative premise. Because R.D.'s DNA did not match the suspect's DNA, Ms. Hanlon reasoned that either he was not June Estes' biological child or June Estes was not related to the suspect.

Joan Hanlon and I elected to investigate some other branches of the family tree to determine whether the suspect might be located on one of those other branches. We considered that the suspect might be a descendant of James Franklin Caughey and Miranda E. Feedback due to the DNA matches of A.C. (A.C has 130.6 Centimorgans (cM) in common with the suspect according to GEDmatch) and K.V.L. (K.V.L. has 239.8 cMs in common with the suspect according to GEDmatch) who were both descendants of Mr. Caughey and Ms. Feedback.

Using mathematical probabilities, the "What Are The Odds" (WATO) tool scores matches to a "target" (our suspect). The WATO tool requires several matches to the target of at least 40 centimorgans and requires family trees that have a common ancestor/ancestral couple. The tool determines where in the tree the suspect more than likely belongs, and which lines need further research or testing.

In order to eliminate or include specific descendant lines, we target tested S.D. because she was also a descendant of James Caughey and Miranda Feedback. S.D. submitted a DNA sample to Ancestry.com. When S.D.'s DNA results were uploaded to GEDmatch, I learned that she was related to our suspect, but only had 169.2 cMs in common with him. According to the What Are The Odds Tool (DNA Painter), there was a 51.69% likelihood that S.D. was a half-second cousin, a second cousin once removed, a half-first cousin twice removed or a first cousin three times removed to the suspect. S.D. results on GEDmatch revealed that the suspect was not a descendant of the Caughey and Feedback line, thus, compelling Joan Hanlon and me to continue to develop other leads.

According to the comparisons from GEDmatch.com, N.D. has 211 cMs in common with the suspect. N.D. gave me access to her Ancestry.com account information and made me the manager of her account. This, in turn, gave me access to her DNA matches. I located C.S.M.,



her cousins, T.L.S. I learned that T.L.S. had built out a tree on Ancestry.com for June Elizabeth Estes, but has June's children listed as "private." According to the tree T.L.S. built, June had two children with an unknown father and then had three children with a man named Joe Barnes. This is consistent with the Parabon report that Junes Estes had two children who had not yet been identified.

C.S.M. and K.B.'s DNA files gave Joan Hanlon and I the additional data and familial information we needed to resolve the R.D. issue. The WATO tool calculated the highest odds we had obtained to date, indicating that the suspect DNA belonged to one of June Estes' offspring. Ms. Hanlon and I deduced, after reviewing Parabon's report detailing their research, that R.D. was not Ms. Estes' child.

Your Affiant learned from June's social security application that she had used six different surnames during her lifetime (Estes, White, Kellar, Lafontaine, Elkins and Sprinkle) and that her parents were Mayne Tillett and John Estes. Your Affiant then spoke to D.L. who is C.S.M.'s mother. She told me that she had six sisters and five brothers. June Elizabeth Estes and John Leslie Estes are her half siblings. Their father, John Welsch Estes, died in a car accident when they were young. June was three years older than D.L. and John was six years older. Their mother later married Charles Long (D. L.'s father). John Estes' children are not suspects because they are all females. D.L. told me that June had two sons with "Bill White." They all lived in Salt Lake City at one time. However, the two sons were born at White Hospital in Ravenna, Ohio. D.L. also mentioned that June had a daughter out of wedlock (Brenda) when she was young but put that daughter up for adoption via Catholic Charities. While married to Bill, June was "sick," and Bill took the boys from her and moved to New York. D.L. told me that she got them back later, but the boys did not want to live with her because they had felt like she abandoned them. June did live in California at one point. She lived "with a guy who had a grocery store," but D.L. could not recall his name or the name of the store. June was later reunited with her children.

Your Affiant spoke to T.L. She told me that she knew that one of June's first sons was named William White. She said that June had had a nervous breakdown and her husband took the children away from her and she later reconnected with William 33 years later. T.L. provided a

newspaper article from the Kentucky Post with the story about their reunion. William later disappeared and nobody in her family ever saw him again.

In a subsequent email, she confirmed the content of our conversation and identified June's eldest sons as William and Curtis White, who she had with her first husband, William White Sr.

The Kentucky Post article dated November 1992 mentioned that June had two sons named William Jr. and Curtis and as her separation from William Sr. evolved, William Jr. and Curtis went to live with their aunt and uncle, Fred and Leona White. Working with Ms. Hanlon, we believed that Curtis Allen White was June Estes' son. Your Affiant later obtained a birth certificate for Curtis Allen White which identified a date of birth as February 10, 1958. William Miran White and June Estes were identified as the parents on that birth certificate.

Your Affiant researched Curtis' criminal history using law enforcement databases. It includes an arrest in Arkansas for First Degree Rape on April 30, 1975 which included a knife. The CCIC/NCIC report also indicated Curtis had used several aliases as well.

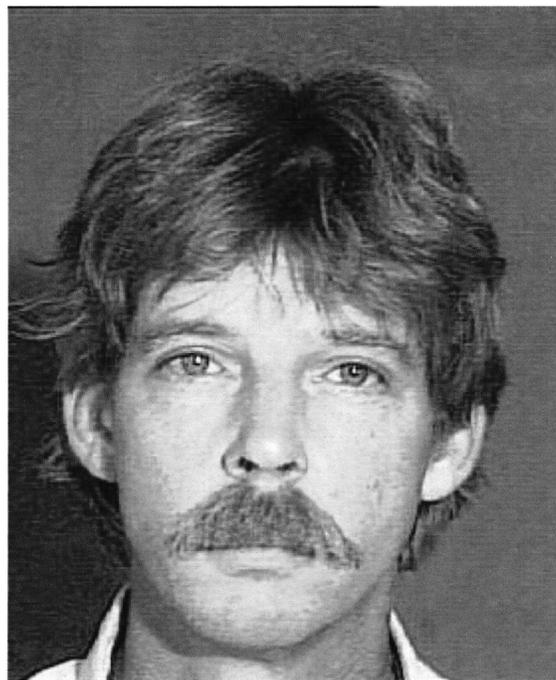
Your Affiant obtained Curtis' prison records from the Arkansas Department of Corrections. The records indicate that Curtis was released on March 3, 1979 and moved to 192 Helena Circle, Douglas County, CO. But in 1981, he was arrested for a parole violation. This means that Curtis was not in custody at the time of Helene Pruszyński's murder.

From those prison records Your Affiant learned that on April 30, 1975, Curtis Allen White (known then as Bobby Booker), entered J.S.'s (identified by her initials to protect her privacy) residence, under the pretense of using her phone. Curtis White then forced J.S. by knifepoint to her bedroom where he raped her. Then he forced her to drive him to the bus station in Little Rock, Arkansas. J.S. went to a friend's house after dropping Curtis White off and reported the rape. Curtis White was arrested by local police within the hour at the bus station.

Your Affiant located a Florida criminal history record which is also attributed to Curtis Allen White. His Florida rap sheet includes arrests for domestic violence battery in 1998 and domestic

violence assault in 2001. The name on his Florida rap sheet is not Curtis Allen White. It is now James Curtis Clanton, DOB March 21, 1957. I know from my training and experience that FBI numbers and state identification numbers are issued and updated based upon positive identification using fingerprints collected at the time of arrest and booking. Because the FBI numbers associated with Curtis Allen White's rap sheet and James Curtis Clanton's rap sheet are the same, they are the same person based upon fingerprint evidence. I learned from CLEAR, a law enforcement database that the social security number that Mr. Clanton is currently using was issued in Florida in 1982. I have not located any records naming Curtis Allen White after 1982, nor have I located any records for James Curtis Clanton prior to 1982.

Your Affiant received the following booking photo from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office where Curtis was arrested in 1998 for Domestic Battery:



Mr. Clanton's booking photo strongly resembles a composite sketch created of the Pruszyński murder suspect:



Curtis Allen White/James Curtis Clanton did not have a known offender sample in CODIS.

Your Affiant searched social media for an account belonging to James Curtis Clanton. I did not find one in his name; however, I located a photograph that depicts Mr. Clanton is pictured wearing cowboy boots. On the day Ms. Pruszynski's remains were located, investigators documented footwear and heel impressions at the scene that were consistent with a Western-style boot.

Mr. Clanton's brother, William White, Jr., also had a lengthy criminal history. William White Jr. has been arrested in California for soliciting sex with a minor. District Attorney Investigator Terrance (Terry) Dobrosky, Ventura County District Attorney's Office, provided me a history of William's deviant sexual behavior, which included his latest arrest. Terry also stated that William has a "sociopath personality."

Your Affiant provided a technician at CBI with William Whites' FBI, Florida, Arkansas, and California state (criminal history) ID numbers. She reported that William White's DNA had been in the California CODIS system since 2010 and his DNA is searching nationally. This allowed

me to rule out William as a possible suspect. However, his DNA could be used to confirm that the suspect is one of June Estes' other children and would potentially reveal his brother Curtis as Pruszyński's murderer.

On November 12, 2019, I received William White's DNA sample from the Ventura County Sheriff's Office in California and submitted it to CBI for comparison to the Pruszyński suspect's DNA. Agent Missy Woods reported on November 18, 2019, in part:

*The major component of the DNA profile previously developed from the sperm fraction of the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1) does not match the DNA profile developed from WILLIAM FRED WHITE, JR.*

*Male-specific (YSTR) DNA analysis was conducted on Item 134.1 at the Yfiler Plus loci.*

***The YSTR profile previously developed from the sperm fraction of the cutting of black fabric (Item 128.5.1) MATCHES the YSTR profile developed from WILLIAM FRED WHITE, JR. Therefore, WILLIAM FRED WHITE, JR and ALL OF HIS PATERNAL MALE RELATIVES are not excluded as potential donors to this sample.***

As the report indicated, William White Jr. was eliminated as a suspect. However, the comparison revealed that William White Jr. and the suspect share the same paternal lineage.

Detective Andy Kuritz, DCSO, confirmed James Curtis Clanton currently lives at 12002 NE 194<sup>th</sup> Place, Lake Butler, Florida. A Florida agency recorded his vehicle's license plate using a license plate reader close to his residence on September 18, 2019. Additionally, a van, registered to James Clanton was seen parked on the property where he is believed to be living. He also reported that Mr. Clanton was likely an in-state truck driver.

Using Ancestry.com tools Joan Hanlon and I located information identifying the White boys' likely father of William White, Jr. and James Curtis Clanton (formerly known as Curtis Allen White) and their uncle Fred who raised them after their mother's nervous breakdown.

On May 21, 1975, Curtis White pled guilty to First Degree Rape and was sentenced to 30 years in prison, with 10 years suspended. However, he only served approximately four years in prison before being paroled.

Your Affiant also learned the following from the documents provided to me by the Arkansas Department of Corrections:

- Curtis White stated that his family life was “rather mixed up.” He did not know his real mother, but his father William Sr. claimed that his mother ran around, and Curtis belonged to someone else.
- William White, Sr. said he was going to put Curtis and William Jr. up for adoption. However, William Sr. gave William Jr. and Curtis to his brother Fred White when Curtis was two or three months old.
- Curtis called Fred his “real father.” Curtis claimed he stayed with Fred until he was 13. Curtis was a chronic runaway.
- He ended up in the Southern Christian Home in Arkansas because he stole a car the last time he ran away.
- According to Curtis, he was kicked out of the home because he had a relationship with a girl who “snuck into his room.” Curtis claimed he had been in several foster homes throughout his life.

While in prison, he was contacted by his former counselor (Southern Christian Home), Daryel Woodward. Curtis White stated at one of his parole hearings, that Mr. Woodward “wants me to live with him in Colorado.” “I want to be paroled because I have people that care about me now and I have adjusted myself.”

The records indicated that Mr. Woodward lived with his wife G.W. and his five children at 192 Helena Circle, Littleton, CO and that he identified himself as the Director of Counseling Services for Colorado Christian Services located at 4690 S. Logan Street, Englewood (4 blocks from where Helene Pruszynski got off her bus at Union and S. Broadway). Mr. Woodward indicated that he would help Curtis secure employment at Richlawn when he arrived in Colorado.

Included in the parole documents was a written call log dated June 23, 1977, showing that Curtis called Mr. Woodward. He listed their relationship as “Friends (future Parents).” On the phone record sheet, Mr. Woodward’s address was listed as 192 Helena Circle, Littleton, CO. The document stated that the reason for the call was to “confirm relationship and future plans.”

Those same documents also indicated that Curtis also called his brother, William White on August 11, 1977.

Curtis was paroled from prison on March 6, 1979. According to his parole "Clearance Sheet," his forwarding address was, "Daryel Woodward, 192 Helena Circle, Littleton, CO." Curtis was paroled to the oversight of Parole Officer Stephen L. Rodgers, located at 7580 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lakewood, CO.

Additionally, his prison records described Curtis as 6'1", 158 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes and wearing a size 10 shoe. Curtis reported that he did not own or drive a car.

Curtis White's Arkansas and Colorado parole records contain the following details:

- February 21, 1979, parole agreement reached. Curtis would live with Daryel and G. Woodward at 192 Helena Circle and work for Richlawn Turf Farms.
- March 9, 1979, Curtis arrived at Helena Circle to live with Daryel and G. Woodward.
- Curtis listed Daryel and G. Woodward as his foster parents. Curtis reported that he did not have a vehicle yet.
- Over the next several monthly reports, Curtis reported living at 192 Helena Circle. In March of 1980, Curtis updated this to reflect an address of 201 W. Belleview, Englewood, CO, an address approximately 5 blocks from the Broadway & Union bus stop.
- He reported first driving a vehicle owned by Daryel Woodward and reported driving a green and white 1978 bus owned by G. Woodward.
- Curtis reported working at New Leaf Nursery, located at 8080 S. Holly Street, Littleton, CO. In January of 1980, he reported his employment changes to the Kirby Vacuum Company located at 9385 S. Federal.
- After moving into the apartment in Englewood, Curtis reconnected with an "old girlfriend," P.J.S., from Arkansas. P.J.S. moved in with Curtis and they married on April 1, 1980.
- As of April 1, 1980, Curtis reported that he was working for Best Buy Vacuums, located on South Federal.
- After 30 days, P.J.S. left Curtis and moved back to Arkansas. When questioned about why his wife left him, Curtis replied that "he is at a loss to explain her behavior."
- Curtis then moved back in with G.W. at 192 Helena Circle. Curtis planned to file for divorce from P.J.S.



- His rape conviction expired prior to Arkansas' sex offender registration laws being enacted in Arkansas in 1997.
- Curtis has not had a driver's license in Arkansas in the past 10 years.
- Curtis was not required to register as a sex offender when he was paroled in 1979.
- Curtis absconded while on parole in 1981 (that was his parole violation here in Colorado).
- His sentence was "discharged" on October 3, 2008. Debby was not sure what this date meant and felt that if he was discharged on this date, that he should have been required to register as a sex offender because the date was after 1997.

On November 21, 2019, DCSO Detectives Tim Vienot and Troy Crosswhite were sent to Lake Butler, FL, to surveil James Curtis Clanton. They were provided with his home address, a vehicle description, and his driver's license photograph which were obtained from law enforcement databases. Once in Florida, they determined Mr. Clanton drives a gravel truck for work. Their assignment was to surreptitiously gather a sample of Mr. Clanton's DNA to compare against the Pruszyński suspect's DNA.

They followed him from November 24, 2019 until November 30, 2019. On November 26, 2019, Detective Vienot watched Mr. Clanton buy a bottle of milk at a convenience store. Later the same day, Detective Vienot noticed that while on a delivery stop in Green Cove Springs, FL, Mr. Clanton was parked next to a dumpster. After Mr. Clanton left, Detective Vienot surveyed the dumpster's contents and located a milk bottle on top of the trash in the dumpster, near where Mr. Clanton had been parked, though deputies did not see him dispose of the milk bottle. Detective Vienot collected the milk bottle and shipped it to me via FedEx. I received the milk bottle on November 27, 2019.

I hand delivered the milk bottle to CBI Laboratories for analysis and comparison. On December 4, 2019, Agent Missy Woods issued a report stating that the DNA on the milk bottle did not match the suspect DNA. As a result, detectives remained in Lake Butler, FL to continue to surveil and surreptitiously collect another DNA sample from James Curtis Clanton.

On November 30, 2019, the detectives followed Mr. Clanton to a bar in Lake Butler, FL. They identified the bar as the Full House Lounge, located at 200 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lake Butler, FL.

Detective Croswhite followed Mr. Clanton into the bar at around 11:45 am and saw Mr. Clanton drinking at the bar with other patrons. He watched Mr. Clanton order several bottles of beer and pour them, one at a time, into a beer mug from which he drank them. Approximately one hour later, Mr. Clanton announced that he was finished drinking and Detective Croswhite watched the bartender collect the beer mug he was drinking from and put it under the bar. The bartender did not wash the beer mug.

The detectives enlisted the assistance of a local law enforcement officer, Detective John Whitehead of the Union County Sheriff's Office. Detectives Vienot and Croswhite had been made aware that Detective Whitehead knows the bar owner well.

Detective Whitehead arranged for the bar owner to discretely collect the beer mug and two others that were staged under the bar. Though they were not able to identify which of the three mugs Mr. Clanton had been using, they asked the bar owner to collect all three on their behalf. The bar owner gave the mugs to Detective Whitehead who met with Detective Vienot down the street. Detectives Vienot and Croswhite collected the mugs and hand carried them back to Colorado where Detective Vienot transferred them to me on December 1, 2019.

On the same day, Your Affiant booked the three mugs into evidence. On Tuesday, December 3, 2019, Evidence Technician Kris Allen from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office delivered the mugs to CBI and made a hand to hand transfer. On December 4, 2019, Agent Woods issued a report documenting her analysis which indicated that the DNA on one of the three beer mugs was a match to the suspect DNA. Her report reads in part as follows:

*DNA analysis and Male-specific (YSTR) DNA analysis was previously conducted on the sperm fraction of Item 128.5.1 at the GlobalFiler loci and YFiler Plus loci. See CBI report dated November 26, 2018 for additional information.*

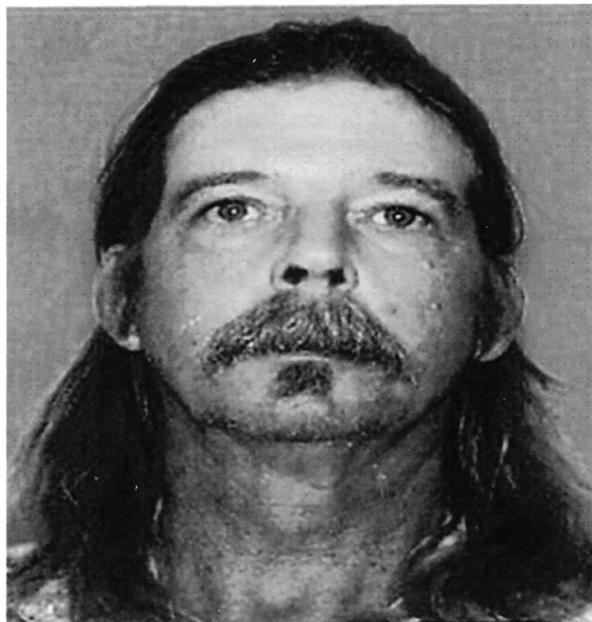
*DNA analysis was conducted on Items 136.1, 137.1 and 138.1 at the GlobalFiler loci.*

*The DNA profile developed from the swab from Beer mug #2 (Item 137.1) indicates a mixture of four individuals. The major component of this profile matches the major component of the DNA profile previously developed from the sperm fraction of the black fabric (Item 128.5.1). The minor component was not interpreted at this time.*

*The YSTR profile developed from the swab from the mouth area of the beer mug (Item 137.1) indicates a mixture of four male contributors. The major component of this profile matches the major component of the DNA profile previously developed from the sperm fraction of the black fabric (Item 128.5.1). The minor component is not suitable for interpretation.*

### CONCLUSION

Because the YSTR (Male-specific) profile that was previously developed (the suspect's DNA) by CBI was a match to James Curtis Clanton's brother, William White, and the DNA found on one of the beer mugs used by James Curtis Clanton, this affiant believes probable cause exists to arrest James Curtis Clanton, 03/21/1957, for Murder in the First Degree and Second Degree Kidnapping of Helene Pruszynski on January 16, 1980.



Based on the foregoing facts and circumstances your Affiant has probable cause to believe that the above offense(s) have been committed and respectfully requests an arrest warrant for:

James Curtis Clanton, 03/21/1957

I have read the foregoing statement, and the matters stated therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9 day of December, 2019

Notary Public  My commission expires 02/22/2022

CHRISTINA K TAYLOR  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF COLORADO  
NOTARY ID 20104005416  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEBRUARY 22, 2022

**District Attorney's Office  
Witness List**

Add Witness	▲ ▼	Copy Witness	Delete Witness
Name: Shannon Jensen, OSN 1531		DOB: <input type="text"/>	Age: <input type="text"/> Race: <input type="text"/> Sex: <input type="text"/>
Victim:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Witness Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> LAY <input type="checkbox"/> EXP <input type="checkbox"/> EYE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POL
Juvenile:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Co-Defendant:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Guardian Name (if juvenile): N/A			
Occupation: Detective		Employer/School Name: Douglas County Sheriff's Office	
Residence Address (Street, City, State, Zip):			
Business Address (Street, City, State, Zip):			
Phone (Home):	Phone (Work): (303) 660-7500	Phone (Cell or Other):	
Witness Will Testify To: Conducted investigation, filing detective			

Add Witness	▲ ▼	Copy Witness	Delete Witness
Name: Helene Pruzsynski		DOB: 04/06/1958	Age: 21 Race: W Sex: F
Victim:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Witness Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> LAY <input type="checkbox"/> EXP <input type="checkbox"/> EYE <input type="checkbox"/> POL
Juvenile:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Co-Defendant:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Guardian Name (if juvenile): N/A			
Occupation: N/A		Employer/School Name: N/A	
Residence Address (Street, City, State, Zip): N/A			
Business Address (Street, City, State, Zip): N/A			
Phone (Home):	N/A	Phone (Work):	Phone (Cell or Other):
Witness Will Testify To:			