



530 Union Avenue • Suite 100 • Fairfield, CA 94533

Administration Offices

(707)421-7000

Gary R. Stanton
Sheriff/Coroner

INFORMATION RELEASE

Arrest Made in Homicide of Missing Fairfield Woman

October 28, 2010

Solano County District Attorney's Office
Solano County Sheriff's Office

In August 1996, Danna Lori Dever was reported as a missing person to the Fairfield Police Department by her boyfriend, Lonnie J. Kerley. Kerley reported that Dever had left their home on June 14, 1996 and hadn't been heard from since that date. The case remained under investigation of the Fairfield Police Department.

In spring 2007, the Fairfield Police Department provided Dever's fingerprint information to the Solano County Sheriff's Office. The fingerprints were matched to those of a deceased woman's body that had been found in the unincorporated area of Solano County and had remained unidentified for years. The body had been discovered by farm workers in a shallow ditch on Flannery Road, just east of Highway 113 in July 1996. In the summer of 2007, sheriff's detectives learned through an examination by a forensic anthropologist, that Dever's body showed signs that she had suffered a deadly beating. In July 2007, detectives served a search warrant at Kerley's home. A DNA sample was taken from Kerley. Evidence recovered from the Flannery Road irrigation ditch was also examined for DNA.

In August 2010, the case was re-opened by Investigators from the Solano County District Attorney's Office. They learned new information through their investigation that allowed them to obtain an arrest warrant for Kerley, charging him with one count of homicide. 50-year-old Kerley was taken into custody this morning at his residence, located on the 300 block of Arlington Circle in Fairfield. The arrest was made by detectives from the Solano County Sheriff's Office, the Solano County District Attorney's Office, and officers from the Fairfield Police Department.

Contact:

Lieutenant Gary Faulkner
Public Information Officer
(707) 784-1490 Office
gfaulkner@solanocounty.com

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