

UNSOLVED MURDER: JANE DOE

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In the five years they've been investigating the case of "**Jane Doe**," detectives came up with two hopeful leads; each, however, ended in frustration.

The woman was beaten with a hammer, strangled and then set afire in Ocean Breeze. Her body was found Sept. 20, 1991, at about 6:30 a.m., by a man who was walking along **Seaview Avenue**.

Det. Mike Morales of the 122nd Precinct Detective Squad last year had information that the woman may have been missing from Vallejo, Calif. But as soon as California authorities received Ms. **Doe's** medical charts, they knew she wasn't the missing woman.

The other lead was that Ms. **Doe** might have worked for the Clyde Beatty-Cole Brothers Circus at the time of her murder. That, too, was a bust.

The Advance profiled this case once before in "Unsolved," on Sunday, Dec. 18, 1994, but police asked that it be published again in hopes that new information would surface.

"This is very uncommon, at least not in my time," Morales said.

"If we can find out who her family is we can at least set them to rest," he added.

Ms. **Doe** was dumped Sept. 19 in a ditch across from the South Beach Psychiatric Center, surrounded by burnt weeds and lying handcuffed on top of the murder weapon -- an industrial-use hammer with a wooden handle inscribed with "Lloyd L," detectives said. The 13-inch hammer is commonly used in auto body shops or by sheet metal workers to bang out metal, detectives said.

Ms. **Doe** was beaten in the head so severely that the coroner's report said bleeding from the brain was a contributing cause of death.

Ms. **Doe** weighed 115 pounds, stood five feet, five inches tall and had shoulder-length, brown, wavy hair.

Her body was also identifiable by a poorly drawn, red and blue scorpion tattoo on her right buttocks, police said.

There were no signs of sexual assault, but detectives can't rule out any motive, including robbery or a lover's violent intent.

Det. Morales is investigating the case. Anyone with information should call detectives on their 24-hour, confidential hotline at 987-3100.

Crime Stoppers also is offering \$1,000 for any information leading to the arrest and indictment of the suspects. All calls made are kept anonymous through 800-577-TIPS.