

Man charged with rest area slaying

BROOKHAVEN (AP) — A Brookhaven man has been charged in the death of a woman whose body was found nearly a year ago at a rest area in Lincoln County, authorities said.

Matching bite marks led to charges in the unsolved slaying, police said. "I think that's the whole key to this," Lincoln County District Attorney Dunn Lampton said.

Alfred Ray Case, 27, has been charged with the murder of the woman whose identity is still being sought, officials said Monday.

The unidentified woman was found by a passerby Sept. 17, 1989, at a rest area on Interstate-55 just north of Dixie Springs.

Lampton described the bites as "numerous" and said they were on "various parts of her body."

Discovery of the bite marks came during the original autopsy by Dr. Steven T. Hayne, a Rankin County pathologist, Lampton said. Dr. Michael West of Hattiesburg, a forensic odontologist, took the marks and matched them with Case's teeth, he said. (An odontologist specializes in the structure, development and diseases of the teeth.)

The first break in the investigation came after Case was arrested July 13 for the alleged assault on his mother-in-law, Nina Mae Willoughby of Brookhaven, police said.

UID-MS - #UP479 - Lincoln County Jane Doe, Lincoln County, 17 Sep 1989

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