

Louisiana v. Hilton Wilson and Reokenski Thomas

Handprints in the morning dew link killers to crime

Following footprints, Ville Platte Detective Pat Hall arrived at a fence and swabbed it for DNA. This act contributed powerful evidence—evidence that TrueAllele computing later interpreted.

Managing Editor Elizabeth West of *Evangeline Today* wrote, “Although the State’s crime lab was unable to say if the DNA was a match to either defendant, the district attorney’s office had the DNA swabs sent elsewhere for more testing. Mark Perlin, the creator of the [TrueAllele] program that was used to further test the DNA swabs from the crime scene, testified in court that his program was able to match the defendants’ DNA to the DNA that was collected from the fence.”

Assistant District Attorney Marcus Fontenot said TrueAllele was “crucial in obtaining the conviction.”

Crime On July 22, 2013, Joseph John (32) was shot in Ville Platte, LA. He later died in the hospital.

Evidence On a fence post at the crime scene, two handprints disturbed the morning dew.

DNA The Louisiana State Police Crime Laboratory found DNA mixtures in both handprints.

Match Due to the nature of the DNA data, the lab could not perform a statistical analysis on the handprint mixtures.

TrueAllele Cybergenetics computing separated the mixture data into genotypes. Comparison with suspects Hilton Wilson (35) and Reokenski Thomas (32) found DNA match statistics in the millions, linking both defendants to the fence.

Cybergenetics On March 10, 2016, Dr. Mark Perlin testified at the trial in Ville Platte, LA about the TrueAllele handprint results.

Outcome Mr. Hilton and Mr. Thomas were both convicted of first-degree murder. They face mandatory life in prison without parole.

Ask for a free TrueAllele screening of DNA data from crime case.

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