



## August Newsletter

*Better Justice Through Better Science™*

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### ***Norma Lopez cold case homicide presented at CHIA conference***



A Cybergenetics DNA mixture cold case was presented this month at the California Homicide Investigators Association (CHIA) conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Riverside County Deputy District Attorney Kevin Beecham spoke about the [Norma Lopez murder](#) that Cybergenetics helped solve.

In July 2010, Norma Lopez (17) disappeared after leaving her Valley View High School summer class; she never made it home. Her partially clad body was found five days later. Her earrings and jeans from the crime scene were tested. The crime lab found the DNA of Lopez, mixed with the DNA of someone else.

In September 2011, a DNA database search linked Lopez' earrings to Jesse Torres (42), who lived near the high school. But limited government interpretation methods couldn't make the needed statistical connection. When labs can't resolve DNA evidence, investigators turn to TrueAllele.

In March 2013, Cybergenetics re-examined the crime lab's DNA mixture data. Their TrueAllele computer technology found that a match between Norma Lopez' earrings and Torres' DNA was 18,000 times more probable than coincidence. TrueAllele also associated Torres with the victim's jeans.

In February 2019, Cybergenetics chief scientist Dr. Mark Perlin testified about the TrueAllele results. The next month a Riverside jury convicted Torres of first- degree murder.

[Article Link](#)

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***TrueAllele supports NGS -  
Next Generation Sequencing***



Last month, Cybergenetics released its new TrueAllele VUIer™ software (version 3.3.8663.1R20b). This new client version supports Verogen NGS data from the MiSeq FGx Sequencing System. Analysts can upload autosomal STR or SNP data from single-source samples or DNA mixtures. Our new NGS batch request feature automatically creates TrueAllele requests for an easier user workflow.

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## ***Cybergenetics to present four ISHI posters on TrueAllele technology***

Cybergenetics and their forensic colleagues will be presenting four scientific posters at the International Symposium on Human Identification. ISHI will be in Denver, Colorado this year on September 18-21.

Cybergenetics poster titles and numbers are:

- Getting More from Less: Information Yield Increases from STR Data when using TrueAllele® Technology (poster #80)
- TrueAllele® Casework Validation of the Verogen ForenSeq DNA Signature Prep Kit Primer Set B and the MiSeq FGX (poster #82)
- Solving Major Crime from Minor Contributors: A Case Report using TrueAllele® Casework (poster #84).
- All Mixed Up: Responding to Ludicrous Opposition Case Reports on Complex DNA Evidence (poster #109)

Poster sessions will be held in Exhibit Hall F at the Colorado Convention Center. Odd-numbered posters will be presented on Tuesday, September 19 from 3:30- 5:30 pm. Even-numbered posters will be presented on Wednesday, September 20 from 3:20-5:20 pm.

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## ***Cybergenetics will be attending upcoming conferences***

Cybergenetics will be attending conferences in August and September. Stop by our trade booth to learn how TrueAllele technology can help solve your most complex DNA. Below is a list of conferences, with dates and locations.

### *September*

9/10 - 9/13 ROCIC (Regional Organized Crime Information Center) in Chattanooga, Tennessee

9/11 - 9/14 AHIA (Arizona Homicide Investigators Association) in Chandler, Arizona

9/18 - 9/21 ISHI (International Symposium on Human Identification) in Denver, Colorado

### *October*

11/06 - 11/10 SEHIA (Southeastern Homicide Investigators Association) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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The banner features a blue background with a faint office scene including a clock, a scale, a magnifying glass, and a computer workstation. A large red YouTube play button is centered over the magnifying glass. The Cybergenetics logo is in the bottom left, and a dark grey bar at the bottom contains the text: "Share our newest video to someone who you think could utilize a Free TrueAllele Screening."

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[Free TrueAllele Screening](#)

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