

90-1

SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CASE# 04-9497 DATE 020104 TIME 1936

PROPERTY	#1	27 STATUS	27	28 DAMAGE CODE	28	PROPERTY TYPE	BRAND	COLOR	MODEL	
		SERIAL NUMBER		VALUE		IF ESTIMATE CHECK <input type="checkbox"/>	RECOVERY VALUE	RECOVERY DATE	#ITEMS	WEIGHT/SIZE
	#2	27 STATUS	27	28 DAMAGE CODE	28	PROPERTY TYPE	BRAND	COLOR	MODEL	
		SERIAL NUMBER		VALUE		IF ESTIMATE CHECK <input type="checkbox"/>	RECOVERY VALUE	RECOVERY DATE	#ITEMS	WEIGHT/SIZE
	27 STATUS	1. STOLEN 2. RECOVERED		3. STOLEN AND RECOVERED 4. RECOVERED OTHER AGENCY 5. EVIDENCE SEIZED		6. OTHER (ARSON) 7. VANDALISM	28 DAMAGE CODE	0. N/A 1. ARSON	2. CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 3. DURING OTHER OFFENSE	9. OTHER

NARRATIVE:

FOR NARRATIVE, SEE P.C.A. ☐

I MET WITH THE COMPLAINANT WHO STATED HER DAUGHTER, CARLIE, DID NOT COME HOME AFTER A SLEEP OVER AT HER FRIEND DANIELLE'S HOME.

I SPOKE TO DANIELLE'S MOM WHO STATED SHE SAW CARLIE STANDING ON THE CORNER BY HER HOME AT 6:18 PM.

MYSELF AND SGT. WALSH STAYED AT THE COMP'S. HOME WHILE DEP. BINKLEY AND DEP. BIEGEL AND SEVERAL OTHER DEPS CHECKED THE NEIGHBORHOODS BETWEEN THE MISSING JUV'S HOME AND HER FRIENDS. WE WERE ALL ON SCENE 4 1/2 HOURS AND SEARCHED THE AREA EXTENSIVELY, TO NO AVAIL. DET. GRAHAM + ISS WAS ON SCENE.

AFTER CALLING ALL THE FRIENDS THE COMP. COULD THINK OF AND A K-9 SEARCH WE ENDED THE SEARCH.

I HAD MY OP. TRIMMIA # 2123 ENTER THE JUV. INFO F/NCIC.

CHARLIE J. BRUCIA W/F DOB - 03-16-92

ADMINISTRATIVE	CRIME SCENE: PHOTOS TAKEN	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	BY WHOM?	DUSTED FOR LATENT PRINTS	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	PRINTS SUBMITTED	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	BY WHOM?	
	REQUESTED BY:			GIVEN TO:			CANCELLED? YES <input type="checkbox"/>			BY WHOM? NO <input type="checkbox"/>		
	ENCLOSURES	1. PHOTO	2.	3.	4.							
	COPIES TO:	N										
	36. CLEARANCE CODE	37. EXCEPTION TYPE (CLEARANCE C OR D)										
A. UNFOUNDED	B. ARREST-ADULT ONLY					1. NO EXTRADITION		5. PROSECUTION WAIVER				
B. ADULT CLEARED/INACTIVE	C. ARREST-JUVENILE ONLY					2. ARRESTED FOR		6. JUVENILE - NO CUSTODY				
C. EXCEPTIONALLY CLEARED-ADULT OR ADULT'S JUV	D. ARREST-ADULT AND JUVENILE					3. PRIMARY OFFENSE						
D. EXCEPTIONALLY CLEARED-JUVENILE ONLY	E. NOT CLEARED (OPEN/INACTIVE)					4. DEATH OF OFFENDER						
					4. VICTIM WAIVER							
INVESTIGATING OFFICER (PRINT)				IDENT. NO.		SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR				IDENT. NO.		
PSA DEB WELSH				1616		SGT. JOHN WALSH #1167						



**In House**  
**Sarasota Sheriff's Office**  
**Pre-Rap**

SSO Case # 04-9497Defendant (L/F/M) SMITH, JOSEPH P.Race W Sex m DOB 3/17/66**Charges****Statute****Bond**MURDER - FIRST DEGREE782.04(1)(a)(i)KIDNAPPING787.01(1)(a)(2)

Warrant#

Citation

Arresting Officer DET. CHRIS HALLISEYID 747Agency S.S.O.Security Threat Yes NoCrime Location 4115 BEE RIDGE RD. SARASOTAArrest Date 2/6/04 Time 0700 Zone 54 Grid 254Arrest Location 2020 MAIN ST. SARASOTAVictim Info CARLIE BRUCIA - CARE OF SUSAN SCHORPENTowing Service N/A**WARRANT ARRESTS ONLY:**

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Hair \_\_\_\_\_ Eye \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Name/Address/Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

OBTS # [REDACTED]FDLE# [REDACTED]Booking # 04-1997

FCIC# \_\_\_\_\_

PIN # 102614

NCIC# \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY # \_\_\_\_\_

LOC# \_\_\_\_\_

Booking Tech # 1188

Property	
Iris	
LiveScan	
Palm Print	
Photo	
Comp Intke	
Supervisor	

## PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

Sarasota County

AGENCY ☒ SSO ☐ SPD ☐ FHP ☐ VPD ☐ NPPD ☐ LBPD ☐ OTHER☒ ORIGINAL  
☐ SUPPLEMENTAL

SSO CASE # 04-9497		SSO BK # 04-1997		OBTS #		ARREST #	
AGENCY CASE # 04-9497		SAO #		FDLE #		UTC #	

D E F E N D A N T	ADULT - ARREST		<input type="checkbox"/> WITH WARRANT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WITHOUT WARRANT <input type="checkbox"/> NON-ARREST COMPLAINT		JUVENILE -		<input type="checkbox"/> ARRESTED / DETAINED <input type="checkbox"/> ARRESTED / RELEASED WITH REFERRAL <input type="checkbox"/> NON-ARREST REFERRAL <input type="checkbox"/> TEEN COURT REFERRAL	
	(LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL)				(LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL)			
	DEFENDANT Smith, Joseph P.				ALIAS Smith, Peter J.			
	DOB 03/17/66	AGE 37	SEX M	RACE W	HGT 5'8	WGT 180	COLOR HAIR BRO	COLOR EYES GRN
	ADDRESS LKA: 3452 24th Pkwy.				Sarasota, FL.			
	PHONE # No Phone				SCARS/MARKS/TATTOOS Multiple Both Arms and Body			
	DL#	ST FL	SOCIAL SEC #		CITY		STATE	
	OCCUPATION Mechanic				EMPLOYER Saurus Auto			
	EMPLOYER ADDRESS 2135 12th Street				Sarasota, FL.		PHONE # (941) 362-7725	
	CITIZENSHIP	IMMIGRATION STATUS		1	RESIDENCE TYPE	2	RESIDENCE STATUS	1
US	1. PERMANENT/LEGAL RESIDENT OF US 2. LEGAL VISITOR 3. UNDOCUMENTED ILLEGAL ALIEN 4. UNKNOWN		1	1. CITY 2. COUNTY 3. FLORIDA 4. OUT OF STATE	2	0. N/A 1. FULL YR 2. PART YR 3. NON-RES	1	
						INFLUENCE OF DRUGS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK ALCOHOL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNK		

C R I M E  E V E N T	DATE & TIME OF CRIME		CRIME LOCATION		LOC	25	ZONE 004	GRID 126	
	02/01/04, 1821hr		4715 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota		TYPE				
	F.S./ORD #	CHARGE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FELONY <input type="checkbox"/> MISD		BOND			
	782.04 1a1	Murder - First Degree							
	F.S./ORD #	CHARGE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FELONY <input type="checkbox"/> MISD		BOND			
	787.01 1a2	Kidnapping							
	F.S./ORD #	CHARGE		<input type="checkbox"/> FELONY <input type="checkbox"/> MISD		BOND			
	INVESTIGATING L.E.O. Det. Chris Hallisey							ID# 747	
	DRUG UNIT	1. GRAM 2. MILLIGRAM	3. KILOGRAM 4. OUNCE	5. POUND 6. TON	7. LITER 8. MILLILITER	9. DOSE/UNIT/ITEM		N	
DRUG TYPE	E. HEROIN H. MALLUCINOGEN O. OPIUM/DERIV C. COCAINE	M. MARIJUANA A. AMPHETAMINE B. BARBITURATE S. SYNTHETIC	U. UNKNOWN Z. OTHER P. PARAPHERNALIA/ EQUIPMENT	N. N/A	DRUG ACTIVITY	M. MANUF/CULT S. SELL E. USE D. DELIVER	P. POSSESS B. BUY U. UNK Z. OTHER	T. TRAFFIC K. DISTRIB R. SMUGGLE N. N/A	
TYPE WEAPON	00. N/A 01. HANDGUN 02. RIFLE 03. SHOTGUN	04. UNK FIREARM 05. KNIFE/CUTTING 06. BLUNT OBJECT 07. HANDS/FIST/FEET	08. POISON 09. EXPLOSIVES 10. FIRE/INCENDIARY 11. THREAT/INTIMID	12. SM WEAPON 13. DRUGS 88. UNKNOWN 99. OTHER	00	CALIBER GAUGE	FINISH WEAPON B. BLUE S. SILVER O. OTHER		
SEIZED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO						N		

A R R E S T	DATE & TIME OF ARREST		ARREST L.E.O./ID#		ASSIST L.E.O./ID#	
	02/06/04 0700		Det. Chris Hallisey #747			
	ARREST LOCATION 2020 Main St.		Sarasota, FL.		ZONE 54	GRID 254
	CAPIAS/WARRANT #		COUNTY & STATE OF WARRANT			
	DATE BOOKED	TIME BOOKED	RETURNABLE DATE	BOOKING OFFICER		
			03/12/04			
RELEASED BY		RELEASED TO		DATE/TIME RELEASED		

V I C T I M	(LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL)				HOME PHONE # (941) 377-4480	
	VICTIM NAME Brucia, Carlisle J.				BUS PHONE # ----	
	ADDRESS 3630 McIntosh Rd.				Sarasota, FL.	
	DOB 03/16/92	AGE 11	SEX F	RACE W	NOTIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES TIME	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

## PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

Sarasota County

☒ ORIGINAL - PAGE 03 of 04☐ SUPPLEMENTAL - PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

DEFENDANT Smith, Joseph P.	SSO BK #	AGENCY CASE # 04-9497
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☒ ADULT CASE☐ JUVENILE CASE

STATE IN DETAIL WHAT THE DEFENDANT DID THAT YOU ALLEGE WAS ILLEGAL. INCLUDE EVENTS THAT LEAD UP TO THE INCIDENT; ALSO INCLUDE WHY DEFENDANT ACTED AS HE DID IF THIS IS KNOWN. HEARSAY IS PERMISSIBLE AND RELEVANT COMMENTS OF DEFENDANT OR WITNESSES INVOLVED SHOULD BE SUMMARIZED. (INCLUDE WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW)

On February 1, 2004 an eleven-year-old female named Carlie Brucia was reported missing to the Sarasota Sheriff's Office. She was last seen leaving the home of a friend (3825 Lalani Blvd.) at 1816 hours, and was believed to be walking only a few blocks to her home - Carlie never arrived.

Through investigative efforts, a surveillance video was obtained from Evie's Car Wash located at 4715 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. As depicted on the video, at 1821 hours Carlie was seen walking along the rear of the car wash. This was a reasonable route to walk from her friend's home. As Carlie was walking, a man approached her. This subject was a white male, 5'6-5'8/ medium build, dark hair, tattoos on both forearms, wearing a dark colored shirt (commonly worn by mechanics), dark pants and white sneakers. It was apparent that Carlie did not recognize this subject and she attempted to pass by him when he stopped her and forcibly walked her out of camera view.

This video was released to the media and the "Amber Alert" system was activated. Subsequently, numerous phone calls were received identifying the Defendant as the subject depicted in the video. This identification was based on the height, build, hair color, hairstyle, tattoos, walking gait and clothing. Witnesses provided information that the Defendant was in fact wearing the clothing depicted in the video.

On February 3, 2004, the Defendant was interviewed and provided a statement as to his activities on February 1, 2004. During this statement, the Defendant stated he was in possession of a 1992 Buick station wagon (yellow) on February 1, 2004, and claimed he was not in the area of the abduction. Through investigation, and interview of various witnesses, Affiant was able to establish unequivocally that the Defendant provided misleading and false information during this statement. Additionally, Affiant identified the aforementioned vehicle in the surveillance video at Evie's Car Wash. This vehicle was observed in the parking lot of the car wash approximately three minutes prior to Carlie's abduction.

On February 5, 2004, the Defendant told a witness that he abducted and murdered Carlie Brucia. Based upon specific information provided to this witness by the Defendant, this witness was able to lead investigators to the body of Carlie Brucia. A preliminary Forensic examination of the body indicates Carlie Brucia died as a result of homicidal violence.

☒ ADDITIONAL PAGES - ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED HEREIN

SIGNATURE OF L.E.O./AFFIANT

DET. [Signature]

ID# 747

SWORN TO (OR AFFIRMED) AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 6 DAY OF FEBRUARY 2004 BY

DET. CHRIS HALLISEY

☒ WHO IS PERSONALLY KNOWN OR ☐ WHO PRODUCED THE FOLLOWING

(PRINT L.E.O./AFFIANT NAME)

IDENTIFICATION

SIGNATURE

Sgt. Paul Richard

☒ L.E.O. ID#

488

☐ NOTARY

PRINT NAME

SGT. PAUL RICHARD

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE

Sgt. [Signature]

ID# 488

## PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT

Sarasota County

ORIGINAL - PAGE 04 of 04☐ SUPPLEMENTAL - PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_DEFENDANT Smith, Joseph P.

SSO BK # \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY CASE # 04-9497☒ ADULT CASE☐ JUVENILE CASE

STATE IN DETAIL WHAT THE DEFENDANT DID THAT YOU ALLEGE WAS ILLEGAL. INCLUDE EVENTS THAT LEAD UP TO THE INCIDENT; ALSO INCLUDE WHY DEFENDANT ACTED AS HE DID IF THIS IS KNOWN. HEARSAY IS PERMISSIBLE AND RELEVANT COMMENTS OF DEFENDANT OR WITNESSES INVOLVED SHOULD BE SUMMARIZED. (INCLUDE WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW)

Based on the above facts, Affiant has probable cause to believe the Defendant observed Carlie Brucia walking home through the parking lot of Evie's Car Wash on February 1, 2004. The Defendant then maneuvered the vehicle he was operating to a location, in a premeditated manner to conceal his actions, where he was able to approach Carlie. The Defendant then forcibly abducted Carlie from the parking lot of the car wash and drove her from this location. Through the means of homicidal violence, the Defendant then murdered Carlie Brucia. Affiant believes the Defendant was solely responsible for these actions, which are in violation of F.S.S. 782.01(1)(a)(1) and 787.01 (1)(a)(2). These events occurred in Sarasota County, State of Florida.

☐ ADDITIONAL PAGES - ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED HEREIN

SIGNATURE OF L.E.O./AFFIANT

ID# 7477SWORN TO (OR AFFIRMED) AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 6 DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2004 BYDET. CHRIS HALUSEY  
(PRINT L.E.O./AFFIANT NAME)☒ WHO IS PERSONALLY KNOWN OR ☐ WHO PRODUCED THE FOLLOWING

IDENTIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE

☒ L.E.O. ID#☐ NOTARY

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME

Sgt. Paul RichardID# 488Sgt. Paul Richard488SGT. PAUL RICHARD



## Sarasota Sheriff's Office

## Pre-Rap

Defendant (L/F/M) Smith, Joseph Peter SSO Case # 24-9497Race W Sex M DOB 03.17.1966

## Charges

## Statute

## Bond

Sex Asslt by person over 18 yoa.Sex battery victim under 12 yoaWarrant# 2004CF279 Citation  
Arresting Officer Tracy ID 538  
Agency SSO Security Threat Yes NoCrime Location Sarasota Co  
Arrest Date 03.03.04 Time 1120 Zone  Grid Arrest Location 2020 Main StVictim Info Towing Service **WARRANT ARRESTS ONLY:**Height  Weight  Hair  Eye  SS# Home Address Employer Name/Address/Job Title OBTS # Booking # 04-3383PIN # 102614AGENCY # Booking Tech # 1878FDLE# FCIC# NCIC# LOC# 

Property	
Iris	
LiveScan	
Palm Print	
Photo	
Comp Intke	
Supervisor	


257

Sleuth Intuition

BOOKING DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
BOOKING TIME \_\_\_\_\_  
BOOKING OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

Case NO.	04-9497
Booking NO.	04-3383
NO.	[REDACTED]
Arrested	3/3/04 1120 HRS
[Signature]	
City Sheriff, SARASOTA, FL	



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA <input type="checkbox"/> IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA											
<b>rec</b> <b>CAPIAS</b>		CASE NUMBER: 2004 CF 002129 NC ORIGINAL OBTS:									
PLAINTIFF <b>STATE OF FLORIDA</b>	VS DEFENDANT <b>JOSEPH PETER SMITH</b>	CLOCK IN <b>1cc/SSO</b> <b>2/27/04</b> <b>2004 FEB 27 PM 2:00</b> <b>CRIMINAL</b>									
TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA <b>GREETINGS: JOSEPH PETER SMITH AKA PETER JOSEPH SMITH JOSEPH PETER SMITH PETER J SMITH</b> <b>3452 24TH PKWY</b> <b>SARASOTA FL 34237</b>											
Agency #: <b>Sarasota County Sheriff's Office</b> <b>TOTAL BAIL BOND AMOUNT: SET BY JUDGE (CT: 1 ONLY)</b>											
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to take <b>JOSEPH PETER SMITH</b> if he/she be found in your county and safely keep him/her, so that you can produce him/her before the Judge of the Circuit Court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, in <b>Sarasota County, Florida</b> , to answer to the charge(s) now pending in said Court of said County for: <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>CHARGE</u></th> <th><u>STATUTE</u></th> <th><u>COUNT</u></th> <th><u>BOND</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SEX ASSLT-BY OVER 18 YOA SEX BATTERY VICTIM UNDER 12 YOA</td> <td>794.011(2A)</td> <td>1</td> <td>SET BY JUDGE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>STATUTE</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>BOND</u>	SEX ASSLT-BY OVER 18 YOA SEX BATTERY VICTIM UNDER 12 YOA	794.011(2A)	1	SET BY JUDGE
<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>STATUTE</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>BOND</u>								
SEX ASSLT-BY OVER 18 YOA SEX BATTERY VICTIM UNDER 12 YOA	794.011(2A)	1	SET BY JUDGE								
and have then and there this Writ, with due return of your action endorsed thereon. Witness my hand and seal this Friday, February 27, 2004.											
KAREN E. RUSHING CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT		DATE <b>February 27, 2004</b> (COURT SEAL)									
											
DEPUTY CLERK											
<u>RACE:</u> White	<u>SEX:</u> Male	<u>DOB:</u> 03/17/1968	<u>HGT:</u> 5'8"								
<u>HAIR:</u> BROWN	<u>EYES:</u> GREEN	<u>WGT:</u> 180	<u>SSN:</u>								
<u>ADDRESS:</u> 3452 24TH PKWY, SARASOTA, FL 34237											



"STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF SARASOTA  
 I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy  
 of pages 1 through 1 of the instrument filed in  
 this office. The original instrument filed contains 1  
 pages.

☒ This copy has no redactions. ☐ This copy has been  
 redacted pursuant to law.

Witness my hand and official seal this 27 day of

**FEB 27 2004**  
 KAREN E. RUSHING, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: Deputy Clerk *[Signature]*

capias

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

**vs.**

**CASE NO. 04-002129-CF**

**JOSEPH P. SMITH**

**COUNT 1 OF INFORMATION ONLY**  
**ORDER DIRECTING ISSUANCE OF CAPIAS**

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on the request of the State Attorney for the issuance of capias on the above named defendant, it is therefore

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Clerk of the Circuit Court is hereby directed to issue a capias for the arrest of the above named defendant and that bail shall be:

☒ as set forth by the bail list in effect within this  
12th Judicial Circuit.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers this 25 day of Feb, 1907.

## EXIT JUDGE

**LAW ENFORCEMENT USE ONLY**

1. This State will not, at this time, extradite from a jurisdiction outside the State of Florida, therefore enter FCIC only.

1\_\_\_\_| This State will extradite from any jurisdiction,  
therefore enter FCIC/NCIC.

(This box will not be utilized by an Assistant State Attorney absent authority from the Chief Assistant State Attorney or their Division Chief.)



N

NARRATIVE  
CONTINUATION ☐

HATE CRIME ☒

INVESTIGATIVE ☐

SUPPLEMENTAL  
JUVENILE ☐

CHARACTER OF CASE Missing Person

CASE # 04-9497

DATE 2-5-04 TIME 02580

INCIDENT LOCATION 6100 BLK PROCTOR RD

GRID 169 ZONE 05

COMPLAINANT/VICTIM DEP OUREE

RACE W SEX M D.O.B. 6-18-63

ADDRESS 2071 Rinkling Blvd

PHONE # 861-5800

DATE OCCURRED FROM MONTH DAY YEAR TO MONTH DAY TIME OCCURRED FROM HOUR MIN TO HOUR MIN

E V E N T  D A T A	RELATED CASE NUMBER(S)	<u>NONE</u>	
	LOG #1 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #2 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #3 RESIDENTIAL
	LOG #4 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #5 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #6 RESIDENTIAL
	LOG #7 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #8 RESIDENTIAL	LOG #9 RESIDENTIAL

SGT DOANE REQUESTED I DEPLOY K-9 RAIDEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF A CANAVER SEARCH IN THE ABOVE LISTED AREA. I DEPLOYED K-9 RAIDEN APPROX 20 YARDS TO THE WEST OF THE TARGET AREA. THERE WAS A 20 YARD WIDE TREE LINE DEVIDING THE 2 PROPERTIES. USING THE WIND, I SEARCHED THE AREA. K-9 RAIDEN ALERTED, ATTEMPTING TO PULL ME THROUGH THE BRUSH. I BROUGHT K-9 RAIDEN BACK TO THE START LOCATION AND RESEARCHED THE AREA. K-9 RAIDEN AGAIN, ALERTED IN THE SAME LOCATION. I ADVISED SGT DOANE OF MY FINDINGS.

COPY TO:

LT KEUNEY

Dps Brian R. Oke #1111  
SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER

SGT. W.L. DIETZ 426  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR



**ORIGINAL**

# Sarasota County Sheriff's Office

Sarasota County, Florida  
Incident/Offense Report

**REPORT INFORMATION**Case Number **200400009497**Date/Time Reported **02/01/2004 19:36**Offense Type **SUPPLEMENT****OFFENSE**Offense 1/Statute **08 MISSING PERSON**

Attempt:

Offense 2/Statute

Attempt:

Offense 3/Statute

Attempt:

**EVENT DATA**Date/Time Occurred From: **02/01/2004 18:00**Date/Time To: **02/01/2004 18:00**

Incident/Offense Location

**3630****MCINTOSH****RD****SARASOTA**

(Street#

Dir

Street Name

St.Type

Apt#

City)

Related Case Number

Grid **126 NC**Zone **004**

Forced Entry

**A NOT APPLICABLE**Location Type **01 RESIDENCE/SINGLE**Weapons Type **00 N/A**Nbr Premises **00**Nbr Offenses **01**Nbr Offenders **00**Nbr Arr Total **00**Nbr Arrest Adult **00**

Nbr Arrest Juvenile

**00****PERSON**

Type

Number

☐ Victim card given

Type

Number

☐ Confidential

Type

Number

Name

(Last Name,First Name,Middle Initial)

Race

Sex

DOB

Estimated Age

☐

Age

Height

Weight

Hair

Eyes

Offense/Incident Indicator

Extent Injury

Injury Type #1

Injury Type #2

Home Address

(Street#

Dir

Street Name

St.Type

Apt#

City

State

Zip)

Residence Type

Residence Status

Home/Cell Phone

Business Phone

Employer/School

Employer's Address

(Street#

Dir

Street Name

St.Type

Unit#

City

State

Zip)

Occupation

Scars/Marks/Tattoos/Clothing

Foul Play

Missing Previously

Recovery Info

Victim/Offender Relationship

DVR

Alias

Place of Birth

Officer/ID: **BORNTREGER JEREMY #1163** Case# **200400009497**Date **2/2/2004**

PAGE #1



**ORIGINAL**

**Sarasota County Sheriff's Office**  
Sarasota County, Florida  
**Incident/Offense Report**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/ Crime Scene**

Photos Taken By Whom?

Prints Submitted By Whom?

BOLO Given to

Enclosures:

Copies To:

Clearance Code **G COMPLETED**

Approved By: **TUGGLE DAVID B #0267**

Dusted For Latent Prints

BOLO Requested By

Cancelled

Cancelled By?

Exception Code



**ORIGINAL**

**Sarasota County Sheriff's Office**  
Sarasota County, Florida  
**Incident/Offense Report**

*[Handwritten signature]*

**ADMINISTRATIVE/ Crime Scene**

Approved By: **TUGGLE DAVID B #0267**

Photos Taken By Whom?

Dusted For Latent Prints

Prints Submitted By Whom?

BOLO Requested By

BOLO Given to

Cancelled

Cancelled By?

Enclosures:

Copies To:

Clearance Code **G COMPLETED**

Exception Code





**ORIGINAL**

**Sarasota County Sheriff's Office**  
Sarasota County, Florida  
**Incident/Offense Report**

AT APPROX. 2110HRS ON THIS DATE I RESPONDED TO 3825 LALANI DR. I MADE CONTACT WITH K-9 DEP. BIEGEL #1229 AND DEP. BINKLEY #1863. AT THE DIRECTION OF SGT. WALSH #1167 WE CONDUCTED A CANVAS OF THE AREA FOR THE MISSING JUVENILE. ALL THREE OF US CANVASSED WEST BOUND BEE RIDGE TO MCINTOSH TALKING TO ALL RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS OWNERS WE COULD FIND. WE THEN CONTINUED TO CHECK BEHIND BUSINESSES AND PARKED CARS IN THE AREA. ON THE RETURN WE CHECKED THE MCINTOSH LN BACK TO THE REAR OF EVIES GOLF DRIVING RANGE AND THEN ALONG THE CREEK BANK. THIS SEARCH YIELDED NO RESULT OF ANY KIND. AT THE DIRECTION OF SGT. WALSH WE CLEARED THE AREA AND WENT BACK INTO SERVICE AND TURNED THIS INVESTIGATION OVER TO CIB.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
Sarasota County, Florida

NARRATIVE ☐ HATE CRIME ☐ INVESTIGATIVE ☐ SUPPLEMENTAL ☒  
CONTINUATION ☐ JUVENILE ☐

CHARACTER OF CASE Missing Person/K-9 Assist

CASE # 04-9497 DATE 020104 TIME 1936

INCIDENT LOCATION 3630 McIntosh Rd Sarasota Fl GRID 126 ZONE 004

COMPLAINANT/VICTIM Dep. B. Biegel #1229 RACE N SEX N D.O.B. N

ADDRESS 2071 Ringling Blvd Sarasota Fl PHONE # 861-5800

DATE OCCURRED FROM 020104 TO 020104 TIME OCCURRED FROM 1936 TO 1936

E V E N T D A T A	RELATED CASE NUMBER(S) <b>N</b>						S. FORCED ENTRY 1 YES 2 NO		<b>0</b>																												
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ON THE NOTED DATE AND TIME I RESPONDED TO 3825 LANANI DR. AT THE REQUEST OF SGT. WALSH. UPON ARRIVAL I MADE CONTACT WITH THE FRIEND OF THE MISSING PERSON AND BEGAN TO QUESTION HER ABOUT THE INCIDENT. I FORWARDED ALL MY INFORMATION TO PSA WELSH FOR HER ORIGINAL REPORT. I THEN ATTEMPTED A K-9 TRACK WITH K-9 OZZI BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. I THEN ASSISTED IN A CANVAS OF THE AREA AND SPOKE TO THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORS WHO STATED THEY HAVE NOT SEEN THE MISSING PERSON. THIS CONCLUDES MY INVOLVEMENT IN THIS CASE.

COPY TO: CIB/DET. GRAHAM

Dep. B. Biegel #1229 Dep. B. Biegel #1229  
NAME AND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF INVESTIGATING OFFICER  
Sgt. [Signature] #488  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F, 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
School  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide

**DATE** 02/04/04  
**TYPED:**

**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:**

**DET:** Vince Riva #362

**SUPV:** Sgt. B. Sullivan #562

omb

**COPY TO:**

WR #362

Sgt.

**2-2-04 – 2030 to 2200 hours**

I was assigned to answer Detective Hallisey's phone (941-861-4923) reference tips that were being phoned in on the abduction of white female, Carlie Brucia, on 2-1-04. Detective Hallisey's phone number was one of the phone numbers listed on the Amber Alert that went out earlier this date (nationally). All of the phoned in tips that I received were written down and documented.

**2-3-04 – 0820 hours**

I was advised by Sergeant Stroud that S.P.D. Officers were currently out with a white male behind the Publix Store located in the Ringling Shopping Center, east of School Avenue. The white male subject was possibly related to the Carlie Brucia abduction case.

W



**2-3-04 – 0830 hours**

I met with S.P.D. Lieutenant Wall and Officer Snodgrass, at South East Pro Chemical (V.I.P.) located on School Avenue, behind the Publix Store. The above business is a delivery and storage area for new vehicles arriving at the Sarasota Ford Dealership. Lieutenant Wall stated he and Officer Snodgrass were dispatched to the above location reference a suspicious white male hanging out behind the Publix Store. I made contact and interviewed white male, Herman Louis Kraines, 5-3-71, who resided at 7600 Palmer Glen Circle, Sarasota, 379-4179 (home). Kraines who is 5'7", 147, with dark hair, stated that he has worked for V.I.P. as a new vehicle PDR Inspector for the last year and a half. Kraines physical stature appeared to be smaller than the white male in the Carlie Brucia video. Kraines stated that he was not working last Sunday and was home all day with his wife (Christy) and two smaller children. Kraines also advised that he watched the "kick off" and the entire Super Bowl from his residence. Kraines drives a 1999 white, four door Honda Civic, Florida tag A20ZIA. Kraines was wearing a blue t-shirt with a V.I.P. logo printed on the left breast area. Kraines stated that he mostly wears blue jeans and the blue V.I.P. t-shirt to work. Kraines did allow me to take two digital photos of him.

At this time, I do not feel Kraines is a viable suspect in the Brucia case. (S.P.D.'s case reference this incident is 04-006601).

**2-3-04 – 0900 hours**

Sergeant Barry Sullivan #562 advised that a tip had been phoned into the Sarasota Sheriff's Office on this date at 0750 hours reference this case. Sergeant Sullivan stated that we needed to locate and question a white male, Joseph P. Smith, date of birth 3-17-66, who was believed to match the description of the white male involved in the abduction of Carlie Brucia.

Sergeant Richard #488 advised that he had called the subject that phoned in the tip and he provided a work address for Smith of 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Sarasota. Sergeant Richard advised me to start at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street location in an attempt to locate Smith.

**2-3-04 – 1015 hours**

Detective Hilton and I arrived at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street (Saurus Auto Inc.) and met with white male, [REDACTED] stated that he was the guy that had phoned the tip into the Sarasota Sheriff's Office earlier this date reference Joseph Smith. [REDACTED] advised that Smith is his friend and [REDACTED] at Saurus Auto Inc. [REDACTED] stated that earlier this date he was watching the video clip of the abduction and missing girl, which was being aired on the morning news. At this time, [REDACTED] believed that the white male

in the video clip was his friend, Joseph Smith. [REDACTED] went on to state that he came to this conclusion based on the white male in the video's mannerisms, physical description and clothing. [REDACTED] advised that, while working at the shop, Smith usually wears a dark gray work shirt with a name patch on it.

[REDACTED] subsequently phoned his landlord, white male, Zdeno R. Balaz, at his residence and told him to watch the news. [REDACTED] advised that after Balaz had watched the video clip on the news, he also felt that the white male on it strongly resembled Joseph Smith.

At this time, I interviewed Balaz, who was also at Saurus Auto Inc. Balaz stated that earlier this date he did watch the morning news reference the abduction of Carlie Brucia and advised that the white male in the video clip looked like Joseph Smith. Balaz stated that he owns the building that [REDACTED] and Smith run [REDACTED] business out of and acts as their landlord. Balaz also stated that Smith does wear dark brown or gray uniform tops, with a name patch, like the guy on the video was wearing.

Balaz advised that on Monday, 2-2-04, he spoke to Smith by phone (941-955-8386) at approximately 1000 hours reference Smith needing a ride to work because his vehicle was not running. Smith drives a chocolate brown four door Lincoln Town Car.

Balaz stated that between 1030 and 1100 hours he picked up Smith at a residence located at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway, Sarasota, and brought him to work at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street (Saurus Auto Inc.). Balaz advised that Smith seemed pre-occupied and believed that Smith was possibly under the influence of an unknown narcotic or had something on his mind. Balaz was aware that Smith had a narcotics addiction problem and asked Smith if he had taken any drugs. Smith stated that he was not feeling good due to high blood pressure and that he had not taken any narcotics. Balaz advised that Smith made several phone calls from the shop (941-362-7725), but wasn't getting much work accomplished.

Balaz advised that at approximately 1300 hours, a white female in her early 20's with blondish/brown hair, had arrived at the business driving a light colored mini van. The white female met with Smith for approximately 20 minutes. During this time, Balaz noticed them hugging on two occasions. After the white female left, Balaz asked Smith if the white female was his sister. Smith stated no, just a good friend.

Balaz advised that due to Smith not feeling well and not doing any work, he took Smith back home (3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway) at approximately 1430 hours. Balaz stated that he felt Smith was acting nervous the whole time he was at the business. Balaz was with Smith the whole time he was at the business. Balaz also stated that [REDACTED] did not work on this date, 2-2-04.

Balaz advised that Smith was currently separated from his wife and provided me with Smith's wife's (Lucy) phone number; 941-316-0910.

The residence on 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway is a friend of Smith's, which is where Smith is currently residing. The owners of the residence at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway were only known as a white male named "Jeff" and his wife, unknown name. Balaz had no other contact with Smith on this date.

Balaz stated that on this date, 2-3-04 at 0900 hours, he phoned Smith at 941-955-8386 and asked him if he needed a ride to work. Smith advised Balaz that he was not feeling good and would not be coming into work today. Balaz had no other contact with Smith on this date. Balaz stated that Smith does not work any set hours and is paid by commission based on his completed mechanic jobs.

██████ then stated to Detective Hilton and I that he would like to think that Smith would not be involved with this incident, but he does not know what Smith is capable of while on drugs. ██████ advised that he called in because he has an eleven year old daughter and wouldn't want anything to happen to her.

#### 2-3-04 – 1100 hours

Detective Hilton and I drove to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway reference contacting white male, Joseph Smith. During a drive-by of said residence, I observed a white male sitting on the front porch talking on a telephone and smoking. The white male was similar in appearance to Smith and had short dark hair and was wearing a red sweat shirt. Based on information obtained from Smith's co-workers and his physical description, I believed Smith was a viable suspect in this case.

I phoned Sergeant Richard and advised him of the investigative leads pertaining to Smith. Sergeant Richard stated that he was sending Detective Davis, #873, out to our location. At this time, Detective Hilton and I parked down the street from Smith's residence, awaiting Detective Davis' arrival.

#### 2-3-04 – 1115 hours

A small blue four door vehicle was observed leaving Smith's residence (3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway). The vehicle was occupied by a white female driver with long brownish/blonde hair.

**2-3-04 – 1120 hours**

Detective Davis met with Detective Hilton and I, at which time we approached Smith's residence. While Detective Hilton positioned himself at the front east corner, Detective Davis and I went to the front door. Detective Davis then knocked on the front door of the residence several times, but no one came to the door.

Smith's four door brown Lincoln was parked in the street in front of his residence. Detective Hilton then advised that while we were knocking on the front door, he observed a white male in the back yard and could tell he had tattoos on one of his arms. The white male then walked towards the rear of the residence and out of Detective Hilton's sight. I then phoned Smith's residence, and could hear the phone ringing inside the house, prior to the answering machine picking up. No one answered the phone and the call was ended. Smith's back yard is surrounded by a 6-7 foot white vinyl privacy fence.

**2-3-04 – 1210 hours**

Sergeant Sullivan arrived at Smith's residence and met with detectives. After Sergeant Sullivan was briefed on the situation at Smith's residence, I proceeded to drive east on 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway to Monica Parkway. I then drove west along the power line easement until I was positioned behind Smith's residence (south).

When I advised Sergeant Sullivan that I had the rear portion of Smith's residence covered, he stated that Smith's sister had just arrived and Smith was coming outside. When I drove back to the front of Smith's residence, I observed Sergeant Sullivan speaking with a white female in the driveway and Detective Davis speaking with a white male (Smith) on the front porch. A few minutes later, State of Florida Department of Corrections Probation Officers Marcos Olivari and Linda Atkins arrived at Smith's residence. Probation officers then conducted a search of Smith's residence.

During this time, Sergeant Sullivan handed me a set of keys in front of Smith's residence and advised Detective Hilton and I to search Smith's vehicle; a brown four door Lincoln, Florida tag 164KBL. I opened the front driver's door, using a key, and pushed the automatic door lock, which unlocked the vehicle for Detective Hilton to search the passenger's side. Located under the front driver's seat I observed a spoon (soup size), which contained a yellowish brown substance, believed to be narcotics residue.

I then searched the trunk area of the vehicle, which contained metal tool boxes, mechanic tools, miscellaneous papers and cardboard boxes. Located inside one of the smaller cardboard boxes was a second spoon (soup size) and a hypodermic



syringe/needle. The second spoon also contained a dried or cooked yellowish brown residue, believed to be narcotics. During the search of Smith's vehicle, two additional State Correctional Probation Officers arrived.

After completing my search of Smith's vehicle, I showed the probation officers both spoons and syringe, and also the location where these items were found.

At this time, I was advised that Sarasota Sheriff's Office Detectives were leaving Smith's residence and turning this incident over to the State Probation Officers.

As Detective Hilton and I were leaving the above area, I observed S.S.O. Warrants Deputy Egan arriving on scene. I took no further action at Smith's residence during this time frame.

#### 2-3-04 – 1415 to 1730 hours

Detective Cundiff #1831 and I followed up on tip leads that had been phoned into the Sarasota Sheriff's Office reference the abduction of Carlie Brucia.

#### 2-3-04 – 1900 to 2130 hours

Sergeant Locke and I conducted a neighborhood canvass in the area of McIntosh Lane and McIntosh Road. We were assigned to the residences along the west side of Parnell Drive.

#### 2-4-04 – 1330 hours

Detective Hilton and I arrived at Saurus Auto Inc. located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Sarasota. At this time, Detective Hilton took a taped statement from [REDACTED] reference the information that he had given on 2-3-04. During this interview [REDACTED] stated that Smith did wear dark gray (two piece) uniforms to work two to three days a week. The uniform tops had a white name patch (Joe) sewn on them.

[REDACTED] also advised that Smith used to own a mechanic shop named Joe's Quality Auto, which was located at USA Storage on U.S. 301 in Sarasota. [REDACTED] believed that Smith's business has been closed for approximately three years. [REDACTED] stated that the uniforms that Joe wears are probably from his old business. [REDACTED] further stated that Smith had previously told him that he had a girlfriend named Alana. [REDACTED] advised that he did not know her last name, but believed she drove a white mini van. Alana was described as a white female in her early 20's. [REDACTED] also knew that Smith was currently living with a couple named Jeff Pincus and Mimi (unknown last name). On 2-3-04, after [REDACTED] arrived at the shop at approximately 0915 hours, he phoned Deno

(Zdeno Balaz) at home and told him to watch the news video reference the missing eleven year old girl. [REDACTED] advised that he told Balaz that he thought it was Joe (Joseph Smith) in the video. On this same date, 2-3-04, Balaz arrived at the shop at approximately 1010 hours and stated to [REDACTED] "It's Joe".

**2-4-04 – 1435 hours**

I took a taped statement from white male, Zdeno Balaz, in reference to the information that he had provided me on 2-3-04. (Review audio tape for complete details of the interview). Balaz stated that the first time he looked at the videotape of Brucia's abduction was on 2-3-04 at approximately 0900 hours, after he received a phone call at home from [REDACTED] telling him to turn on the TV and watch it. [REDACTED] told Balaz that it looked like Joe. Balaz stated that after he watched the video clip, he also believed the white male in the video looked like Joe Smith. Balaz felt like the uniform and haircut matched Smith. Balaz stated that the uniforms Smith wears were either brown or gray and had a patch on them, but couldn't remember what it said. Balaz also stated that Smith also wears white tennis shoes to work. When Balaz showed up to work on 2-3-04 at approximately 1000 hours, [REDACTED] told him that he had already contacted law enforcement reference the man in the video resembling Joe Smith.

Balaz had first met Smith in March or April, when he and [REDACTED] opened a mechanic's business [REDACTED] and rented Balaz's building (2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street). The name of their business was Saurus Auto Inc. Balaz then left for Europe in May 2003 and when he returned in August or September, Smith was no longer working at the shop. [REDACTED] told him that Smith was no longer working there because of a drug problem.

In mid December 2003, Smith contacted Balaz about coming back to work at the shop. Balaz stated that he did let Joe Smith return to the business to work on commission. Balaz stated that Smith did have a key and the [REDACTED] to the business because he would work different hours at the shop. Balaz stated that a couple Saturdays ago he came into the shop and found it a mess. Balaz stated that he contacted Smith and told him not to come into the shop anymore, if no one was there, and that he also changed the [REDACTED]

Balaz advised that Smith was at the shop on Friday, 1-30-04, but did not see or talk to him all weekend (1-31-04 and 2-1-04).

Balaz advised that the last time he spoke to Smith was on 2-3-04 at approximately 1200 hours, when Smith phoned him at the shop. Smith called Balaz and asked him why he called the police.

During this same time frame, Detective Davis, Detective Hilton and I were at Smith's residence (3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway). After repeated knocks, Smith still would not come to the door.

Balaz stated that later in the day on 2-3-04, Smith's mother came to the shop and asked him why he called the cops on her son. Balaz stated that he didn't, but he felt that Smith's mother also believed it was her son on the videotape. Balaz said that Smith's mother was upset and crying. She stated that she hoped the girl was OK.

Balaz added that later, on this same date, a white male named Bud, who is a friend of Smiths, came by the shop and also believed that the man on the video looked like Joe Smith. Balaz did not know Bud's last name, but advised that he worked at Tire Kingdom on U.S. 301 and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Sarasota.

At the conclusion of this taped statement, a Hispanic female, 30 – 40 years of age, and two Hispanic males came into Balaz's Shop. The Hispanic female stated that the FBI was just at her residence accusing her of being a drug dealer. The Hispanic female wanted paperwork or receipts that showed her vehicle had been repaired at this shop. The Hispanic female appeared agitated and upset. After a short conversation with Balaz, the Hispanic female and two Hispanic males left the shop in a red Honda Civic.

#### 2-4-04 – 1530 hours

Detective Hilton and I arrived at USA Storage located at 2251 N. Washington Boulevard, Sarasota, and contacted the Sales Consultant Peter Holleywood, 11-2-45. Holleywood checked his computer records and advised that there were no storage units under the name of Joseph Smith. Holleywood advised that Joe's Quality Auto was run out of Unit I-17, but they had left approximately three years ago. Holleywood stated that Unit I-17 is currently rented by Brian Harvey, who installs sound systems in vehicles.

#### 2-4-04 – 1555 hours

Detective Hilton and I arrived at Tire Kingdom (1324 N. Washington Boulevard) in an attempt to contact "Bud". We were advised by other employees of the business that Bud Clemons was off today, but would be back at work tomorrow morning (2-5-04).

#### 2-4-04 – 1617 hours

Detective Hilton and I arrived at 2402 24<sup>th</sup> Way, Sarasota. Detective Hilton took a sworn taped statement from Hispanic male, Eugenio Gonzalez Exposito and white female, Charlene McArthur. (Review audio tape for complete details of the interviews).

**2-4-04 – 1700 hours**

Sergeant Stroud advised that Smith had made a phone call from jail to a cell phone (941-228-2566), which came back to a Haskel Clemons. Sergeant Stroud requested that Clemons be contacted at his residence; 3814 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway.

**2-4-04 – 1757 hours**

Detective Hilton and I arrived at 2720 51<sup>st</sup> Street where white female, Lynn Dinyes, was interviewed and a taped statement was taken by Detective Hilton. Mrs. Dinyes advised that on 2-3-04 at approximately 0600 to 0700 hours, she was watching the news and saw the video of Brucia's abduction. When Mrs. Dinyes saw the man's back, as he approached the girl on the video, she thought the man looked like Joseph Smith. Mrs. Dinyes stated that the shape of his head and the way he walked lead her to believe that the male was Smith. When the man turned and faced the camera, Mrs. Dinyes said that she believed that it was definitely Joe Smith. Mrs. Dinyes advised that he male's face, head, hair, walk and uniform all reminded her of Smith. Mrs. Dinyes advised that Smith always wore a uniform like the one in the video. Mrs. Dinyes has known Smith for approximately 3-4 years and met him through her [REDACTED]. Mrs. Dinyes didn't know him that well, but definitely knows him by sight.

Mrs. Dinyes then had her [REDACTED] watch the video because she thought the male looked like Joe Smith. After her [REDACTED] had watched the video, he also thought the subject was Joe Smith. [REDACTED] advised his [REDACTED] that he would call the police with this information. At approximately 0750 hours, [REDACTED] phoned the Sarasota Sheriff's Office with this information.

Mrs. Dinyes also advised that she use to live on ten acres of property off of State Road 675 in Eastern Manatee County, but had sold five acres and the house. Mrs. Dinyes still owns the other five acres that are wooded and fenced. Mrs. Dinyes gave us directions to the five acres that rest on the western end of 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East in Bradenton. [REDACTED] stated that Smith is familiar with the property because he has taken him to it in the past. Mrs. Dinyes advised that the last time she saw Smith was one evening last week, when Smith came to her residence to visit with her [REDACTED]. Mrs. Dinyes had no knowledge of Smith's activities on 2-1-04.

**2-4-04 – 1835 hours**

Detective Hilton and I arrived at 3814 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway and interviewed Haskel D. Clemons, 3-28-44. Also present at the residence was Clemons' live-in girlfriend, white female, Barbara Demers, 11-23-43. Clemons, who goes by the name Bud Clemons, stated that he's known Joseph Smith since 1995 or 1996, when they both worked at the Tire

Kingdom Store located on Clark Road, Sarasota. Clemons added that they have been friends since that time. Clemons stated that he is currently the manager of the Tire Kingdom Store located at 1324 N. Washington Boulevard, Sarasota. Clemons advised that on Tuesday morning, 2-3-04, he was watching the news when the video clip on Carlie Brucia's abduction was aired. After watching the video, Clemons stated that he felt that the man in the video looked like Joseph Smith. When Clemons arrived at work on Tuesday, he discussed the video with a co-worker named Bill Sherman. Clemons advised that Sherman believed that the male in the video looked like the guy that works at Saurus Auto. Clemons then told Sherman that he also thought the male looked like Joe.

During this time, Joseph Smith was employed at Saurus Auto Inc., which is located on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Clemons stated that later that day, after he had gotten out of work, he stopped by Saurus Auto, and met with Ed and Deno. Clemons advised that he told Ed and Deno that he had seen the video of the abduction and thought the male in the video looked like Joe. Clemons advised that Joe's mother was also at the shop when he arrived and that she was very upset and mad. Clemons heard Joe's mother state that "If Joe did this; I will get the truth out of him". Clemons got the impression from Joe's mother that she felt that the male in the video also looked like her son (Joseph Smith). Clemons stated that he last saw Smith on Friday, 1-30-04, when Smith came into his store (Tire Kingdom) wanting to put a new tire on his wife's car. Clemons advised that Smith was driving his wife's car at the time. Clemons did not have the tire in stock and ordered one for Smith. The tire did come in on Tuesday, 2-3-04, and after Clemons left Saurus Auto he stopped at Jeff Pincus' residence on 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway, where Joe Smith had been living. Pincus told Clemons that Joe got arrested earlier today and that he had just gotten off the phone with Joe. (Joe called Pincus from the Sarasota North County Jail). Clemons advised that Pincus did not say much about Joe's situation. After Clemons left the Pincus home, he drove to Smith's wife's residence located at 2738 Ingot Place, and put the new tire on her vehicle.

Demers stated that after she had seen the video of the abduction, she did not believe the male looked like Smith because she felt Smith had shorter hair. Demers had last seen Smith approximately three weeks ago, when Smith had stopped by their residence to see Clemons. While we were at Clemons and Demers' residence, a news report came on TV showing Smith's arrest photo. Demer was shocked at Smith's appearance in the photo. Clemons was also verbally upset at Smith's possible involvement in this case.

#### 2-4-04 – 2230 hours

I met Detective Wenger on State Road 675 and drove to the five acres owned by Lynn Dinyes. The property is located on the west end of 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue East in Manatee



County. At this time, Detective Wenger and I did a cursory search of the five acre parcel and found nothing of evidentiary value. The property contains mostly pasture land and palmettos.

**2-5-04 – 1545 hours**

Sergeant Stroud advised that he wanted me to meet with Forensics personnel at the City of Sarasota Sanitation Site located at 1325 N. Osprey Avenue. The above location (Waste Services of Florida Inc.) houses all of the city's garbage prior to being transferred to the Sarasota County Land Fill.

I met with Facility Manager Gerry DeVirgilis and Transfer Station Supervisor Bobby Davis. DeVirgilis advised that all of the employees had been sent home, except for a fork lift operator. DeVirgilis also advised that all of the trash that had been collected on this date was secured in one transfer building.

At this time, Lieutenant Whitehead and Forensics Technician Andrus arrived at the City Sanitation Site. DeVirgilis then escorted us to the transfer building that housed the trash. The trash of interest had been collected on 2-5-04 from the 12<sup>th</sup> Street area in Sarasota, and contained both residential and commercial bins. Davis stated that the garbage truck that had picked up the 12<sup>th</sup> Street area, earlier this date, had dumped the load in the transfer building at 1231 hours. Davis also advised that only two semi-trailers full of trash had been taken to the landfill, after the load from 12<sup>th</sup> Street had been brought in.

Based on Davis' calculations and weight of the trash hauled to the landfill, Davis believed that the 12<sup>th</sup> Street trash that was collected earlier this date was still contained in the transfer building. Davis advised that there was approximately 50-60 tons of trash being held in the transfer building.

At this time, Lieutenant Whitehead advised DeVirgilis that we would not be searching the trash on this date and asked DeVirgilis to secure the transfer building. Lieutenant Whitehead stated he would phone DeVirgilis later this date or first thing tomorrow morning to conduct an organized search of the trash. The transfer building was secured and I left the building.

**2-5-04 – 1635 hours**

I arrived at Saurus Auto Inc. and met with members of the FBI Evidence Recovery Team. At approximately 1640 hours, Zdeno Balaz and his wife arrived at the business and unlocked it. Balaz did sign a S.S.O. Consent to Search form. The FBI Evidence Recovery Team then began to search and process the building for evidence. Balaz

stated on 2-3-04, that the last time he saw Joseph Smith was on Friday, 1-30-04 at Saurus Auto. On 2-5-04, Balaz remembered that Smith was at work (Saurus Auto) on Saturday, 1-31-04, at around 1000 hours to 1200 hours. Balaz could not remember if Smith was already at the shop when he arrived or if Smith arrived after him. Balaz advised that he had two jobs he wanted Smith to finish on Saturday, but at approximately 1150 hours, Smith received a phone call at the shop and when he hung up, Smith stated he had to go and left the shop. Balaz did not know who had called Smith at the shop.

Balaz also stated that Smith does have the [REDACTED] to the business and he only told Smith he had changed the [REDACTED] because he didn't want Smith at the shop when no one else was there. Balaz advised that Ed was the only one who could change the [REDACTED] and he had not changed it as of this date. Balaz also advised that Smith has a key to the shop. At this time, I left Saurus Auto and returned to North C.I.B.

#### 2-5-04 -- 1930 hours

I was assigned to a [REDACTED] team by Sergeant Sullivan reference a residence located at 7270 South Leewynn Drive, Sarasota. I was advised that the residence belonged to a John Smith. S.S.O. Detectives and I set up a loose perimeter [REDACTED] near the residence. Detective Mercurio was assigned as the primary unit of the residence.

#### 2-5-04 -- 2245 hours

We were advised to terminate the [REDACTED] at the above location and return to North C.I.B. We learned that Carlie Brucia's body was believed to be on the property of the Central Church of Christ located at 6221 Proctor Road, Sarasota.

This concludes my involvement with this case.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlle J. Brucia  
W/F, 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida 34232  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
School  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide

**DATE TYPED:** 02/02/04

**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:**

**DET:** Stephanie Graham #1515

**SUPV:** Sgt. B. Sullivan #562

Omb

**COPY TO:**

**RELATED CASE(S):** None

**INDEX**

**WITNESS/OTHER:**

1) Steven R. Kansler  
W/M, 1-29-68  
5'9", 160, Bro/Blue  
2725 Blossom Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34239  
941-809-9627

2) Ron Choquette  
W/M, 12-2-67  
941-488-9565

3) Michael A. Evanoff  
W/M, 9-15-72  
6'3", 230, Bro/Blue  
1240 South View Drive

W

Sarasota, FL 34242  
Evie's Car Wash  
4715 Bee Ridge Road  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
941-371-3161

4) Jon M. Hanson  
W/M, 4-15-73, 5'9", 175  
480-221-1999

5) John L. Osborne  
W/M, 10-8-58  
6', 200, Bro/Bro  
3825 Lalani Boulevard  
Sarasota, FL 34232

**EVIDENCE STATUS:**

1 Pair Man's Underwear

**ATTACHMENTS TO REPORT:**

2 – Consent Forms to Electronically Monitor  
Telephone  
Property Receipt

**2-2-04 – 0815 Hours**

I was assigned to assist Detective Hallisey to locate Carlie Brucia, who still had not returned home. Since I had responded to the home the previous evening, I was familiar with the situation.

Detective Hallisey and I went to Brucia's home and spoke with her mother, Susan Schorpen. She was very upset and still had not heard from Brucia. She had located a list of friends and phone numbers that she had been calling all night. The following is a list of numbers that she called:

Travis Westin, 371-5089	Jacklyn, 377-8061
Jessica, 341-0161 or 400-7055	Thayr, 379-9621
Sierra B, 377-0076	Ana C., 342-0251
Sammy, 371-1127	Amber J, 378-0264 or 544-6602 (cell)
Kerry, 371-3961	Tiffany M, 342-1278
Mackenzie, 379-0890	Emily O, 571-6494 or 504-3987 (cell)
Ronnie, 343-0281	Tammy, 343-9530
Lorra, 371-5677	Dean, 379-1933
Samantha, 343-0251	Caitlin, 378-0917
Rachicke, 365-5624	Shelly, 342-9112
Danielle, 377-9021	Cramon, 379-3173
Shakyla, 906-8275	Rachel E, 378-4705
Vanessa, 379-5044	Krista T, 378-4533
Emily, 377-1973	Steven, 371-4140
Krysta W, 922-5735	Courtney B, 379-9687
Alexxus, 343-8096	Mikelle, 379-2882
Nicky, 341-9391	Alley Rossi, 378-8662
Victoria Rimes, 378-1103	Nicole K, 379-6272
Summer, 343-6195, 702-0283, 725-0733 (cell)	

Schorpen said Brucia had not run away before. She said that there were times when they had arguments and Brucia made threats to leave. Schorpen said all the people Brucia would have gone to have been in touch with her and they had not heard from Brucia. She said most of the family was out looking for her the previous night.

Schorpen stated that Brucia was rarely allowed to walk from Lothridge's home. She said Brucia may have done it three times before, but was usually met half-way by her friend. She never gave permission for Brucia to walk home the previous night and said she was told to stay at Lothridge's until 2030 hours. As soon as she spoke to Arnold on the phone and was told Brucia was walking home, she immediately told her husband,



Steven Kansler, to go pick Brucia up. He did not find her and had looked between Lothridge's house and theirs.

Schorpen said that Brucia had no physical problems and took no medications. She had a dentist in New York and Detective Hallisey suggested getting the dental records sent.

Schorpen said there were no specific "hangouts" that Brucia frequented. She liked music, movies, make-up and typical teenage girl things. She was a good student who got good grades and had many friends.

Detective Hallisey explained that we would wait to see if Brucia showed up for school before taking any further action to locate her. Detective Exposito was contacted at McIntosh Middle School and asked to locate Brucia at her first class. We were later informed that Brucia was not at school. Detective Hallisey asked Exposito to find out which of Brucia's friends were not at school and interview any close friends that were there.

As Detective Hallisey and I left Schorpen to go speak to Danielle Lothridge and her mother, Connie Arnold, I met Steve Kansler, Brucia's step-father. He told me that he and Schorpen had recently separated and he had not been living at the residence for the past two weeks. He said he and Schorpen just didn't get along anymore. He said that Brucia and her mother were good friends and argued occasionally. He said Brucia was a good kid and they got along most of the time, except when he tried to discipline her or act too fatherly towards her. He could give no information on where Brucia could have gone.

We went to 3825 Lalani Boulevard and spoke to Lothridge and Arnold. Arnold said again that it was just after 1800 hours when she left her residence and saw Brucia standing across the street. She said Brucia was not walking, but just standing on the opposite side of the street from the house. She again said she asked Brucia what she was doing and was told she had permission from her mother to walk home. She thought it was strange that Brucia was not walking, but just standing there.

Arnold said she called Schorpen as she drove away and told her Brucia was walking home. She was informed by Schorpen that she had not told Brucia to walk home and was sending Kansler to pick her up. She stated again that she did not see Brucia after that. She said that Brucia had told her earlier that she hated her family and that her mother made her do everything around the house. Arnold said she was told by Brucia's neighbor that it was always Brucia's responsibility to get her five year old brother up in the morning, dress, feed him, and get him to the neighbor's house to get to school. Arnold stated she never observed Brucia talk back to her mother, but added she had too much responsibility at home for an eleven year old girl.

I asked Arnold if something happened that morning that may have upset Brucia. I explained that I had been told she and Schorpen had been at a party. She said they had gone to a friend's house, Ross, where she got into an argument with a woman. She said they had several drinks and went back to Schorpen's for the night. She said she and Schorpen came back to her house to check on the girls at about 0800 hours. She said there was no altercation and said she thought the girls were still asleep. She was unaware if Schorpen had spoken to Brucia that morning which may have upset her. Arnold could not say if Brucia made any other phone calls to anyone other than her mother before she left the residence.

I asked Lothridge if anything had upset Brucia. She stated again that Brucia had become moody and said she hated her family and said several times she did not want to go home. Lothridge said during the night Brucia had tried to leave the residence, but Lothridge and Michelle Jones had blocked the doors and wouldn't let her leave. After awhile, they were all getting along again and Brucia's mood improved.

Lothridge said she was asleep when Arnold and Schorpen had come to the residence. She was unaware if Schorpen had spoken to Brucia that morning. Lothridge also said that the girls did not see Ron Choquette, who also lived at the residence, all night and said he was in his room. The next morning, Choquette had taken the three girls to McDonald's for breakfast in his Upman's tow truck. When they returned, Lothridge and Jones had become upset at Brucia and they had locked her out of Lothridge's room. Choquette had intervened and the girls got along the rest of the day, according to Lothridge. Lothridge could not say if Brucia had been in contact with anyone else before she left the house. Lothridge would only say that she did not see Brucia use the phone. When pressured further by Det. Hallisey about if she knew if Brucia had been in contact with someone who may have possibly picked her up, Lothridge broke down and cried, covering her face. She said she didn't know anything else, although it appeared she was holding something back, as if to protect Brucia.

Arnold, who was present while speaking with Lothridge, stated for her daughter that she didn't know anything else. She explained that her family had been friends with Brucia's family years ago, but Arnold and Lothridge had moved to Tennessee. They had only recently moved back to Sarasota and Brucia and Lothridge were just becoming reacquainted. She said they had only been together three or four times in the past month.

Arnold stated that a tenant had recently moved into an attached apartment in the rear of her residence. I contacted John "Jay" Osborne in the rear apartment. He stated he had moved in two days ago and did not know the residents well. He said Sunday afternoon, three young girls, one of whom he believed lived at that residence, came to

his door. He said the switch to the electric for the girl's room was located in his apartment. The three girls had come to the door and asked him to flip the switch for them. He said the encounter was brief and he could not recall what the girls looked like or what they were wearing. He added that he was awakened at about 0500 hours, Sunday morning, to a "ruckus" in the main house. He said he heard yelling and what sounded like things being broken.

Detective Hallisey and I looked over the area of Lalani Boulevard near Bee Ridge Road, where Arnold last saw Brucia. Detective Hallisey requested Sarasota Search and Rescue dogs to respond and track from where Brucia was last seen. An item belonging to Brucia was taken from her bedroom for Bloodhounds to get her scent.

While back at Brucia's home, Schorpen's friend, Jessie, approached Detective Hallisey and I. She said they were looking through Brucia's room looking for some clue to where she was. Jessie stated that several letters were found written by Brucia that said she hated her mother and family, etc.

#### 1230 Hours

We responded to the area near Piper Place and Busti Way where the Bloodhounds had tracked. We were told by a member of the Search and Rescue Team that the dogs had tracked west on Bee Ridge Road from Lalani Boulevard, after another dog had tracked north on Lalani Boulevard. She said the westbound dog had a stronger track, but had lost it after going north on Busti Way. The dog had wanted to go through the driving range on Bee Ridge Road, but they had gone around it to avoid getting hit by golf balls.

Detective Hallisey said that, if necessary, we would close the driving range briefly so the dogs could track across. We went back to the area of Evie's Driving Range at 4715 Bee Ridge Road and requested Deputy Sheardown, who was assisting the trackers, have the driving range cease hitting balls until we were done. The dogs tracked part way west through the range, then north up through the residential area of Sarasota Springs.

As Detective Hallisey and I stood near Evie's Car Wash, we were approached by Mike Evanoff, who runs Evie's. We explained that we were trying to locate a missing 11 year-old girl and gave her description. Evanoff said he had surveillance video in the rear of the car wash and would check the previous day for any sign of Brucia. Detective Hallisey provided Evanoff with his card and told him to contact us if the video showed anything.

Detective Hallisey and I went to where the Bloodhound had tracked to a ditch near Yawkey Way and Parnell Way. The dog was tracking through the ditch to Beacon

Drive. As we were traveling to meet where the dog had cut through to the other street, Detective Hallisey was contacted and asked to return to Evie's Car Wash.

At Evie's Car Wash, Evanoff said he thought he had the missing girl on his surveillance tape. As we watched the video of the previous day, at approximately 1821 hours, a girl fitting Brucia's description is observed walking west in the rear lot of Evie's Car Wash. The girl is approached from the west by a white male wearing what appeared to be a mechanic's uniform. The man takes Brucia by the wrist and leads her off to the west of Evie's Car Wash. It was unknown to us, at that time, if Brucia went willingly with the man or if she knew him.

Evanoff had Jon Hanson come to Evie's Car Wash to put the video on a disc for us to take. Evanoff was provided a property receipt for the disc he gave us. The disc was subsequently taken to North C.I.B. and viewed by detectives and supervisors.

I did an area canvass of the businesses and residences near Evie's Car Wash. I spoke to the employees of Sparkle Brite Pool Store to the west of Evie's. They stated the business closed on Sunday at 1400 hours and they did not have a [REDACTED]. I went to Decorator's Alley at 4672 McIntosh Lane. The employee said no one was at the business on Sundays and they also did not have a [REDACTED].

I went to the residences near McIntosh Lane and Piper Place. The resident at 3740 Piper Place said they were gone until 2100 hours on Sunday and observed nothing. The resident at 3746 Piper Place stated he had come home from work at about 1530 hours, but did not see or hear anything suspicious.

That evening I took a picture of Brucia back to Evie's Driving Range and spoke with two employees, Jessica Baxter and Robert Dove, who had been working the previous evening. Neither remembered ever seeing Brucia, but Baxter remembered Kansler coming in the previous night looking for his daughter.

Dep. Biegel was using his work dog to further canvass the area of Evie's Car Wash. He located a pair of men's underwear in a ditch off Piper Place just south of Busti Way. It was unknown if the piece of clothing was of interest in this case, so I collected it and placed it into Property.

While in the area, the report of a stolen vehicle came to my attention. I met with Deputy Gaeta at the scene where a white Honda was recovered off McIntosh Lane, near Evie's Car Wash. The car was checked out and I learned the vehicle had been there for nearly two weeks. It was established that the vehicle was not involved in Brucia's disappearance.

2-3-04 – 0800 Hours

I responded to Brucia's residence to have Schorpen sign a consent to electronically monitor her phone lines. She had no problem with the request and signed the papers. I contacted Sergeant R. Graham to inform him that the monitoring could take place.

Throughout the day, I was in contact with Verizon Florida, Inc. Nuisance Calls Division to get verification and authorization to put a trap on Schorpen's phone line. This was accomplished after numerous calls and faxes.

Kansler was interviewed on this date. He said that Schorpen had told him to go pick up Brucia from Arnold's house at about 1815 hours because she was walking home. He said he washed his hands and immediately left the residence. He drove east on Bee Ridge Road and looked for Brucia walking westbound, but did not see her. Once he got to Arnold's house and did not see Brucia, he assumed he had missed her and drove down Bee Ridge Road a couple of times between their house and Arnold's. He thought she might have cut through to McIntosh Lane so he drove that road as well, but did not locate Brucia.

Kansler said he went into Evie's Driving Range where they have ice cream and an arcade, but did not find Brucia. He went back to Arnold's residence and asked Jones and Lothridge if they knew where Brucia was and they did not. He continued to check the area of Bee Ridge Road several more times before going home. He said he then briefly left again and checked the area of McIntosh Lane and returned home. By this time he said it was about 1845 hours when he and Schorpen left again to go look for Brucia. They went to Arnold's where Schorpen and Arnold yelled at Lothridge and Jones, according to Kansler.

They then left and drove very slowly westbound on Bee Ridge Rd. with the van hazard lights on, while yelling Brucia's name out the window. They stopped briefly by the side of the road while they got out checking a wooded area. Kansler said he saw a red tow truck drive by and look at them. He said the truck turned around and came back toward them, probably thinking they had car trouble. Kansler said the truck pulled up slowly behind them and then drove off quickly without stopping. Kansler thought this was very odd. They got back into their vehicle and continued to drive west looking for Brucia and turned back into Evie's parking lot. There he saw the red tow truck, again, which was in the parking lot. The truck quickly turned around and left.

A little while later, not being able to find Brucia, Schorpen and Kansler returned to Arnold's residence. Kansler said the red tow truck that he saw earlier was parked out in front of the house. He had never met Ron Choquette, who was the truck's driver and Arnold's boyfriend, before. He said he was 100% sure that it was the same tow truck,



from Upman's Tow Company, that he saw at Evie's and thought the driver's behavior was very strange.

**1500 – 1600 Hours**

I was requested to go speak with Lothridge and Jones to inquire about what possible shoes Brucia had in her possession when they last saw her. Det. Lane was following up a lead in Kissimmee, Florida, and needed the information. Both Lothridge and Jones stated that the only pair of shoes they recalled Brucia having were black skateboard style shoes. This information did not match the information that Det. Lane had and his lead was unfounded. This lead was documented in an information tracking form.

**02/04/2003 – 0900 Hours**

Det. Peters and I were requested to go and pick up a possible witness, Christine Montalvo. We contacted Montalvo at her residence and she accompanied us back to the North CIB offices without incident. Det. T. Davis interviewed Montalvo and then, upon completion of the interview, I transported her home. This lead was also documented in an information tracking form.

The rest of my involvement in this investigation this week involved answering phones for the Amber Alert Hot Line.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Brucla, Carlie  
W/F, 03/16/92  
5',120, Blo, Blu  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, FL

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02/06/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/03/04 to date

**Det.:** C. Luce #1010  
tad  
**Copy to:** Det. C. Hallisey #747

**Supv.:** Sgt. T. Stroud #578

**SYNOPSIS**

**02/03/04 0800 Hours**

I contacted SPD Media Liaison Officer Jay Frank and relayed the telephone number(s) to refer calls with information for this case. I also spoke with Officer Rossnagle with the Crime Prevention, Officer King from the front desk, and their Criminal Investigations Bureau.

**02/03/04 0955 hours**

I responded to Sam's Club located on Fruitville Rd. in reference to a tip (lead #12) that Carlie was possibly in the store on 02/02/04 between 1830-1930 hours. I reviewed their [REDACTED] and did not locate any subjects matching Carlie's or the possible suspect's description.

**02/03/04 1100 hours**

At approximately, I received lead #72 that John Silver may possibly be the suspect on the [REDACTED] I contacted Det. D. Burns from our South District who had a previous case with Mr. Silver. Det. D. Burns followed up on the lead and made contact with Mr. Silver.

W

Mr. Silver was with his girlfriend on Sunday 02/01/04. At this point in the investigation, Mr. Silver is of no interest as a possible suspect based on the information received. See Det. Burns supplement for further.

**02/03/04 1145 hours**

Sgt. Sullivan contacted me to respond to the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway in reference to Joseph Smith. At approximately 1200, before my arrival, Sgt. Sullivan cancelled me. I returned to the North Criminal Investigations Bureau to assist with further leads.

**02/03/04 1800 hours**

After a briefing units responded to the area of Evie's Car Wash to canvass the neighborhood where Carlie was last seen. I responded and spoke with many of the residents on Yawki and Busti Dr. At approximately 2010 hours, dispatch asked units to respond to the area of Evie's in reference to a suspicious male. I was in the rear of Evie's at the time and immediately stopped to assist. I saw a female (Cynthia Luna) yelling saying that a white male, matching the description of the suspect, was running from the rear of the business. Dep. Beigel K-9 arrived and started a possible track. Cynthia insisted that the male ran between the businesses toward Bee Ridge Rd. Dep. Beigel started a K-9 track to check the area. Det. Lane #1110 observed a white male sitting in his pick up truck in the front of the business. Det. Lane contacted the male subject and confirmed that he was the same male subject that Cynthia and her friend had seen. (See Det. Lane's supplement). I did a tape-cassette interview with Cynthia Luna and her friend, Erna "Chessie" Huber. Both stated that the male in the truck was the male they had seen in the rear of the business.

I responded to North Criminal Investigations to report and turn in the results of the canvass.

Lead #192- Unfounded and unable to make contact with the caller

**02/04/04 0800 Hours**

I assisted in following up on leads.

Lead #TP90- Not related to case.

Lead #TP95- Det. Peters attempted contact.

Lead #TP86- Det. Peters contacted.

Lead #TP203- I made contact with [REDACTED] She stated she felt she might have seen a girl matching the description of Carlie in a maroon Tempo, leaving the area of Hidden Lake Village. She could not positively identify the girl and could not give a description of the driver.

Lead #TP509- [REDACTED] called in a tip about Carlie. I attempted to make contact with [REDACTED] to no avail. I left a message for him to return my call.

Lead #TP357- [REDACTED] called in a tip of a black Ford van with FL tags was sitting in front of Consumer Car Care in Springhill, FL. I contacted Hernando County Sheriff Office to have one of their units respond. Dep. Brooks returned my call and stated that the vehicle was legitimately there to be worked on.  
(352-754-6830)

Lt. Norm Raymond from Ferndale Police contacted me in reference to a teletype that was sent to their agency. The request was to look for a subject, Michael Gandy, who was wanted on felony charges out of Polk County. They were confused, however, due to the message stating the subject possibly had Carlie with him. I verified through teletype operator Judy, that the teletype was not out of our agency and we had no knowledge of this information. The teletype was then given to F.D.L.E.

Michael Lopez contacted the Sheriff's Office stating he worked at Kash N Karry. He stated that Carlie came in to the store on Friday (01/30/04) at approximately 1100 hours and asked for change to make a call from the payphone. He did not know if this was relevant. Det. Clemento met with Michael and picked up the [REDACTED] received the [REDACTED] at the office and submitted it into Property.

#### 020504 0800 Hours

I assisted in following up on leads.

Lead #TP571- [REDACTED] contacted us in reference to Joseph Smith working on her vehicle. [REDACTED] advised she had her vehicle serviced at the end of 2002 (Nov. Dec.) for brakes. The repair was not done properly. Joseph was in New York in January 2003 reference a drug problem. When he returned in February 2003, he avoided contact. [REDACTED] stated she had the receipts.

Lead #TP578- I made contact with [REDACTED] (Clerk of the Court-Charlotte County) He stated that he saw a similar vehicle driving northbound on Highway 17 headed to Arcadia at approximately 1730 hours. He did not notice the occupants.

Lead #TP606- I spoke with Lt. Sutton from the Sarasota City Police who stated a white rope was found on 27<sup>th</sup> parkway on the south side of the water treatment plant. The rope was described as being thick, possibly a type of rope used for boating. At this point of time the rope is not believed to be of any value to this case.

Lead # 232- I attempted to contact a [REDACTED] who contacted America's Most Wanted, in reference to this case. He stated to them that he felt the suspect could possibly be Horace Browning. Horace was last known to be in the Donaldson Correctional Facility in Birmingham, AL. I was unable to make contact with [REDACTED] by phone. I left a message for him to call me.

**02/06/04 0800 Hours**

I responded to Evie's for a press release. I then returned to the office and finished any paperwork and possible leads that needed to be submitted.

I had no further action in this case.



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia **CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Missing Person/Child **DATE TYPED:** 02/06/04  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** to date

**DET:** Stephanie Graham # 1515  **SUPV:** Sgt. B. Sullivan # 562  
**Ear**  
**COPY TO:**

**RELATED CASE(S):** None

**SUPPLEMENT AND INDEX**

**VICTIM:**

Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F 03/06/92  
5' 120 BLN/BLU  
LSW: Jeans, red shirt, pink backpack

**OTHER:**

Michelle M. Jones  
W/F 11/20/91  
5'2" 100 BLN/BRO  
1427 Good Avenue  
941-587-4993  
Attends: Brookside – 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Tiffany L. Meeks  
W/F 12/05/51  
4216 Webber Street, Sarasota, Fl.  
342-1278  
Attends: McIntosh 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Ron Choquette  
W/M 12/02/67

W

448-9565

Danielle L. Lothridge

W/F 08/28/92

5'1" 130 BLN/BLU

3825 Lalani Drive

377-9021

Attends: McIntosh 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Connie Arnold

W/F 03/15/66

3825 Lalani Blvd.

377-9021

### **SYNOPSIS**

I was contacted by Sgt. Iorio at approximately 2030 hours and instructed to respond to the home of a missing 11 year old girl. The girl had been missing for several hours.

I met with PSA Welsh and Sgt. Walsh at 3630 McIntosh Road, which is the residence of the missing girl. Walsh stated that the missing girl, Carlie Brucia, had not come home from staying with a friend. Carlie had last been seen at about 1815 hours at the friend, Danielle Lothridge's, home by Lothridge's mother, Connie Arnold.

I met with Connie who told me that Carlie had spent the previous night at her home with Danielle and another friend. Connie had not stayed the night with the girls, but had gone to the complainant's house for the night. Connie said that her boyfriend, who had recently moved in, had supervised the girls at the home. She stated she had known her boyfriend, Ron, for two months. Connie said that just after 1800 hours she left her residence to go see her son at the Detention Center in Manatee and observed Carlie standing across the street. She said Carlie was just standing there like she was waiting for something, swaying back and forth. Connie said she asked Carlie what she was doing. Carlie told her that her mother gave her permission to walk home. Connie said she called the complainant as she drove away and asked if she gave Carlie permission to walk home and found out she had not. Carlie was not seen after that. She said Carlie was wearing jeans, a red shirt and had a pink backpack with her. Connie also stated that earlier in the day Carlie had told her she didn't want to go home and that her mother made her do everything around the house.

I spoke to Carlie's best friend, Tiffany L. Meeks. She said she had not heard from Carlie that day. She said Carlie had a boyfriend, Travis Westin, and they had broken up the previous Wednesday. She said that Travis had already been contacted and had no information about Carlie. Meeks did not have any other helpful information.

I attempted to speak with the complainant who was very upset. She stated that Carlie had never run away before and that she would always call and let them know where she was at. She said she was a good student and an obedient child. Complainant said she had not given Carlie permission to walk home and as soon as Connie called and told her she sent her husband to go pick her up.

Complainant's brother was at complainant's house and intoxicated and being belligerent toward law enforcement on scene. It was difficult to get further information from the family due to his interference.

I spoke to Welsh who was first on scene. She said she had received numerous names of friends of Carlie that had been contacted or were being contacted by family and friends. She said that the stepfather, Steve, who was supposed to pick up Carlie was still out searching the area between Danielle's house and Carlie's, as well as, other friends, family and deputies.

I spoke to Sgt. Walsh who stated that Deputy Beigel and other deputies were in the area that Carlie was last seen, searching and doing a track with a K-9. The child had been entered into NCIC/FCIC and a BOLO had been issued.

I called Sgt. Iorio to inform him of the situation that the missing girl was not an habitual runaway, and had not run away before. He instructed me to interview the girls who spent the night and day with Carlie.

I responded to Danielle's house and spoke to her. She stated that Carlie had been in a good mood the night before, but had become moody later on. She said she had PMS and was bitchy. Carlie and the other girl, Michelle, had gotten into a fight and were playing around kicking and hitting each other but Carlie had become upset by it.

According to Danielle, Carlie had said she hated her family and didn't want to go home. She said she didn't care about her life. She told the girls she wanted to go to New York and live with her grandmother. Danielle also said that Carlie commented about going to her uncle's house on Bee Ridge Rd. Danielle said Carlie only had a few clothes with her and \$8.00. Danielle said she did not see when Carlie left her house.

I spoke to Ron Choquette who was at home with Danielle. He stated that he was still at work when Carlie left the house and he did not see her.

I responded to Michelle Jones' residence located at 1427 Good Street at approximately 2300 hours. She stated that she had met Carlie for the first time the previous night and thought she was really nice. She stated that they were play fighting and it had gotten out of hand and Carlie had become moody. She stated that Carlie had wanted to leave during the night, but the girls wouldn't let her go.

Michelle said very early in the morning, the complainant and Connie had come to the house. She said she thinks they were drunk, being really loud and arguing. They had come from a party where Connie had gotten into a fight and had gotten hit in the lip. Michelle said after they left the house, Carlie had become depressed and said she hated her mother. She stated she didn't want to go home and that she hated her family. Michelle did not see when Carlie left the house.

I notified Sgt. Iorio of the results of the interview. I told him that all indications were that she was upset and ran away or went to a friend's house who was covering for her. I inquired if an Amber Alert was appropriate at this time. He did not know the exact criteria for an Amber Alert and suggested that I call Sgt. Sullivan. He did not feel that a comment to the press, which had been requested by the family, was appropriate at this point.

I called Sgt. Sullivan who stated that to issue an Amber Alert required a known abduction. He and I agreed that, based on information I had received, there was no indication of that. He stated that if the family wanted to release information to the media that all we would comment on is that the child was missing and presumed to have run away.

I relayed what information I had to Sgt. Walsh who was still on scene with the family. He stated that the deputies had completed a door to door canvass from Danielle's home to Carlie's home with no new information. There was no indication of foul play so my assistance was not needed.



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE SUPPLEMENT**

**VICTIM:** Carlle Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
5'0" 120 lbs. Blonde hair, Blue  
eyes  
3630 McIntosh Road  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
941-377-4480

**CASE #:** 03-9497

**OFFENSE:** Murder

**DATE TYPED:** 02/09/04

**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/04/03 – 02/06/03

**Det.: D. Burns #461**  
mf *df*

**Supv.: Sgt. J. Quinn #487**  
*Sgt 487*

**Copy to: Det. C. Hallisey #747, Det. T. Davis #873**

**SUPPLEMENT**

**02/04/04 – 1000 hours**

I responded to the North District CIB Office to assist in this case.

**02/04/04 – 1120 hours**

Det. Sgt. Richard requested that I contact Det. Davis to assist in locating and obtaining statements from the suspect's brother and mother.

Det. Davis stated that the last information available indicated that John Smith resides at 7270 S. Leewynn Drive, Sarasota.

**02/04/04 – 1149 hours**

Det. Klay and I attempted to contact John Smith at his residence. He was not there, but we were informed that he should be at his office, Accu-Lab located on Northgate Blvd.

**02/04/04 – 1220 hours**

Det. Klay and I attempted to contact John Smith at Accu-Lab, 1734 Northgate Blvd., Sarasota. We were told that he was not there. I left my card with my cell phone number and asked that John Smith be notified to contact me as soon as possible.

**02/04/04 – 1335 hours**

I received a telephone call from John Smith. I asked Smith if he would be able to stop by the North District CIB Office sometime in the afternoon. Smith stated that he was very busy, but indicated that he would try to stop by the office at 2000 hours.

**02/04/04 – 1400 hours**

In an attempt to identify Joseph Smith's mother, I contacted Linda Atkins/Parole & Probation. She said that records listed Patricia and Paul Davis as Smith's mother and stepfather. I obtained a copy of Patricia Davis' driver's license photo.

**02/04/04 – 1540 hours**

Det. Klay and I met with Linda Atkins at her office. She identified Patricia Davis as Smith's mother. The address on the driver's license showed that Davis resides at 4809 Eldron Avenue, North Port.

**02/04/04 – 1745 hours**

Det. Klay and I met with Paul Davis at his residence, 4809 Eldron Avenue. Davis said that his wife, Patricia was not home, but had just left Sarasota. I told Davis that we would stop by at approximately 1900 hours.

**02/04/04 – 1850 hours**

I received a call from John Smith. Smith stated that he was on his way to the North District Office. I told him that someone would contact him in the lobby.

I contacted Det. Davis and informed him that Smith would be at the office within the next few minutes.

**02/04/04 – 1900 hours**

Det. Klay and I contacted Patricia Davis. She agreed to provide a sworn taped statement. Davis stated that she had contacted her son, Joseph Smith at a residence on 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway after receiving a call from her daughter, Rena, who related that law enforcement officers were at the residence with Smith. Davis said that she was at work at the time. She works for her son, John, who owns Accu-Lab. Davis said that she rode with John to the residence.

Davis said that she could not recall what she asked Joseph Smith once she arrived at the residence on 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway. Davis said that she was very upset. I asked Davis if she asked Smith if it was him in the photo of the abduction. Davis said that it was possible, but she could not remember. I asked her if she could remember Smith's response to her question. Davis said that Smith stated that it was not him and he had nothing to do with it. I told her that the Probation Officers that were there remembered the conversation differently. Davis again stated that she was upset and cannot remember what was said. Davis said that she wanted to wake from this nightmare and for someone to tell her that her son is not involved.

Davis said that her son, John was there as well and he told her that it was not Joe. Davis went on to explain various reasons as why it was not Joseph in the photo. She said that Joseph, his wife and kids were at their residence Sunday before last (January 25<sup>th</sup>). She said that she did not see him again until Tuesday morning.

Davis said it is possible that she asked him to tell her that he didn't do it, but she was upset and cannot be certain of what she said. Davis then said that Smith called last night and said that he had been cleared. She said he called again today and said that he was being continually questioned about the incident.

**02/05/04 – 1400 hours**

I attempted to contact Francheska Moctezuma at her residence, 3664 Stokes Drive, Sarasota. Her mother, Christine Montalvo stated that she would be at the residence at approximately 1830 hours.

**02/05/04 – 1900 hours**

I contacted Francheska Moctezuma at her residence. She provided a sworn taped statement, however she was unable to recall the exact time that Joseph Smith arrived back at the residence. She believes that it was approximately 1930 – 2000 hours. Moctezuma could not recall what Smith was wearing nor describe the car he was

driving. She said that when he arrived she called her mother and Smith waited outside until her mother returned.

Christine Montalvo related that before she received the phone call from her daughter, she received a telephone call from Smith. She said that Smith was calling to see if they had the parts needed to repair her car. Montalvo said she wrote the number down later and believes that he called her from a payphone. She said the telephone number was 371-9758.

**02/05/04 - 1940 hours**

I contacted CCC and was informed that the number is assigned to a payphone at the Quick Stop, 4529 Bee Ridge Road.

I verified that the telephone number is one of two payphones outside the Quick Stop. The clerk told me that there is no [REDACTED] at the Quick Stop.

This concludes my involvement in this case.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02-09-04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 to date

**Det.:** J. Szalbirak #1088 *(P1088)*  
**Supv.:** Sgt. B. Sullivan #562  
**Copy to:** *See*

**SYNOPSIS**

I assisted in the investigation by answering the Amber Alert phone line.

I started answering the telephone at 0930hrs on 02/03/04 and continued answering the phone line until 0300hrs on 02/04/03.

I answered the Amber line from 1400hrs to midnight both 02/04/04 and 02/05/04. My contacts with the callers were documented on FBI's investigative leads form.

This concludes my involvement in this case at this time.

*w*



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia  
3630 McIntosh Rd  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
(941) 377-4480

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide

**DATE TYPED:** 02/10/04

**STATUS:** Supplemental Report

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:**

**Det.:** M. Bollinger #1847 (10)  
**Njk**  
**Copy to:**

**Supv.:** Sgt. T. Stroud #578 (3)

**SUPPLEMENT**

**02/03/04-1100 hours**

Detective Peters and I responded to A.S.A.P. Rental located at 5377 McIntosh Rd reference tip #16. The tip stated the suspect shown on the news looked like a subject named Scott that worked at A.S.A.P. Upon arrival, we met with the manager Mike Mullins. He advised the subject in question is a former employee named Scott M. Kansler, i.e. 08/24/69, who quit some time ago. Additionally, he stated Scott was the brother of Carlie's stepfather, Steven Kansler. He said Carlie's stepfather had come in earlier this date requesting permission to put up fliers inside the business.

**02/03/04-1600 hours**

Detective Peters received a phone call from Paul Grier, an employee at A.S.A.P. Rental. He said he had information related to a conversation he had with Steven Kansler. He felt the information was important for us to be aware of and wanted to speak with us in person.

**02/03/04-1648 hours**

Detective Peters and I arrived at A.S.A.P. Rental to interview Paul Grier.

W

**02/03/04-1658 hours**

Detective Peters and I conducted an audio taped witness statement with Paul Grier in the conference room at A.S.A.P. Rental. He requested his manager Mike Mullins be present with him during the interview.

Grier said he was concerned about a conversation he had with Steven Kansler, the stepfather of the Carlie. He said he had the conversation earlier in the day before we came the first time. He said after thinking about it, he told his manager Mike Mullins about what was said. He said his manager encouraged him to call us back to tell us what had been said to him by Steven Kansler. He said Kansler had come in requesting to put up fliers for Carlie. Grier asked Kansler if he had any additional fliers he could give to him. He explained to Kansler his girlfriend is a Manatee County employee and she could make sure the fliers are distributed in Manatee County. He said he walked with Kansler to the van he had parked in front of the business. Kansler explained to Grier he was running low on fliers and asked for Grier's cellular phone number. Grier said shortly after he gave Kansler his phone number, Kansler asked him if he was the same Paul who got in trouble with his brother Scott. Grier told him he was the same person, but had changed his ways. Kansler then asked him if he could get him some steroids in a couple of days after this whole thing blew over. He told Grier he had his number and would call him in a couple of days.

Grier said he wasn't sure if it was anything to be concerned with, but did not understand how Kansler could be thinking about wanting to buy steroids when his stepdaughter was missing. He also didn't understand why Kansler made the comment about this all blowing over in a couple of days. He said he had gotten into trouble with Scott Kansler about nine months ago related to drug activity. He said he remembered Scott telling him how, in an unrelated incident, Scott had stolen from drug dealers in Miami. Scott told Grier the people in Miami were very mad and had threatened to do whatever it took to him or his family to get back the money owed them.

Grier in closing said he felt compelled to let us know about this in case it might be helpful in our investigation. (I placed this taped interview into evidence.)

**02/03/04-2015 hours**

I was requested by Detective Davis to assist him in completing a vehicle tow sheet on a vehicle that was parked in front of the Sarasota Police Department located on Ringling Blvd. Upon arrival, Forensics Investigator Lanham was taking photographs of the vehicle. I was told the vehicle was believed to have been involved in the abduction of Carlie. I watched Lanham seal the vehicle with evidence tape. She sealed all doors to

the vehicle except the driver's door. She gave me instructions to stand with the vehicle until the tow company arrived. She told me to call her cell phone when the tow truck arrived.

**02/03/04-2126 hours**

Upmans towing arrived on scene. Lanham had arrived back on scene moments prior to the tow truck arriving. She instructed the driver of the tow truck to wear gloves before touching the steering wheel or anything in or inside the vehicle. I put the final evidence label on the driver's door securing the vehicle.

Lanham followed the tow truck back to the forensics lab where it was secured for forensics processing. (See tow sheet for vehicle information.)

**02/05/04-1715 hours**

Detective Peters and I arrived at Jesse's Country Store located at 3605 N. Lockwood Ridge Rd. reference a tip we had received about a possible grave sight located in the wooded area to the southwest of Jesse's Country Store. We met with [REDACTED]. He said he heard on the news they were requesting people check the wooded areas and fields near you, for Carlie. He said he was walking the field across from [REDACTED] business and found what looked like a recently dug grave. He said he immediately retreated from the area and called the tip line at the Sheriff's Office. He described the dirt area as being eight feet by five feet in size.

Detective Peters and I assessed the area and could not determine if the location in question had anything buried underneath the ground without further investigation. I then contacted Sgt. B. Sullivan and informed him of the situation we had.

**02/05/04-1800 hours**

Forensics Technician Lanham and K-9 Deputy Olree #1111 arrived to our location at 3605 N. Lockwood Ridge Rd. Deputy Olree had his cadaver-trained K-9 search the area. Deputy Olree advised his K-9 gave a possible alert on the dirt area in question and recommended the Forensic technicians investigate the dirt area further.

Technician Lanham requested Technician M. Miller respond to the scene for her expertise as the resident archeological specialist in the unit.

**02/05/04-1830 hours**

Forensic technicians Miller and Andrus arrived on scene. They began to process the site to determine what was beneath the dirt.

**02/05/04-1845 hours**

Forensics Sgt. S. Sullivan arrived on scene to assist in the processing of the scene. The area was searched thoroughly by Forensics and it was determined the area in question was a result of possible wildlife rooting in the area.

**02/06/04-0840 hours**

I arrived at 6221 Proctor Rd; the location Carlie was discovered. I was instructed to assist in taking witness statements of any possible walk-ups to the church that wished to report information related to this case.

**02/06/04-1038 hours**

I conducted an audio taped interview with Guy A. Cesta at 6221 Proctor Rd. He said he stores his lawn equipment in the rear of the church property on the North side. He said on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004 between 0800 and 0900 hours he observed a vehicle parked in the front of the church property. He said he was pulling into the church property to pick up his lawn equipment. He said he observed a light colored station wagon facing south, toward Proctor Rd on the west side of the church's front parking lot.

He believed the vehicle may have been occupied by one person. He said he did not get a good look at the inside of the vehicle as he drove around toward the back of the church property. He said he was in the rear of the church property for approximately thirty minutes and then he left. As he left the property, he noticed the station wagon was gone. He said he later saw the bulletin on television with the picture of the suspect vehicle. He said he is 80 percent certain the vehicle he saw was the same one he saw on television.

Mr. Cesta said he again came to the church property to drop of his equipment on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004 between 1300 and 1500 hours. As he and his helper Gregory Simmons drove toward the rear of the church property, they observed a Maroon colored S.U.V. in the area of the now known location Carlie was found. Cesta said the full size vehicle was backed into the wooded tree line on the west side of the church property. As he drove by the vehicle he said a 6 foot tall, white male with short blonde hair, wearing a white t-shirt and pants came running out of the tree line. He said the male

actually tripped as he was running toward the vehicle. Cesta said he and his worker disconnected the trailers and went to see what the subject was doing. He said he and Simmons did not notice anything other than a pile of tree trimmings. He said he thought it was odd that someone would put trimmings in such a nice vehicle. He said he never actually saw the subject pull trimmings out of the vehicle, but assumed that must have been what he did.

Mr. Cesta said he met with the pastor of the church around 1900 hours the same date and discussed the vehicle with him and showed him the trimmings he found dumped. He said the pastor told him the pile he was discussing was actually dumped by someone else whom he had given permission to several days prior.

**02/06/04-1038 hours**

I conducted an audio taped interview with Gregory Simmons, an employee of Guy Cesta. This interview was conducted at 6221 Proctor Rd. He said he was with Mr. Cesta the on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004 around 1430 hours when they were returning the equipment to the rear of the church property. He said he too saw a burgundy in color S.U.V. in the rear of the church, backed into the tree line on the west side of the property. He said the vehicle was single color and very shiny. He said he thought the vehicle was a Ford Excursion, Expedition, or something similar. Simmons observed a white male, 25-30 years of age with short blonde hair wearing a white t-shirt running from the tree line toward the S.U.V. He said he remembered thinking that it was odd for someone to dump tree trimmings from such a nice vehicle. He never saw the subject dump the tree trimmings but assumed that must have been what he was doing. Simmons said he and Cesta checked the area after the vehicle left and he did not find anything out of the ordinary.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

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<b>VICTIM:</b>	Carlie Brucia W/F 03/16/92 5'0" 120 lbs. Blo/Blu 3630 McIntosh Rd. Sarasota, FL (941) 377-4480	<b>CASE #:</b>	04-9497
<b>OFFENSE:</b>	Homicide	<b>DATE TYPED:</b>	02/11/04
<b>STATUS:</b>	Supplement		
<b>PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:</b>	02/03/04 to date		
<b>Det.:</b>	G. Hilton #1286 <i>GH</i>	<b>Supv.:</b>	<i>TS</i> Sgt. T. Stroud #578
<b>Copy to:</b>	Detective Chris Hallisey #747		

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**SYNOPSIS****02/03/04 – 0900 hours**

Sergeant B. Sullivan asked me to go with Detective Riva and talk to Joseph P. Smith W/M 03/17/66. Sergeant Sullivan advised that a call had come in from a co-worker stating that the male subject in the video with Carlie Brucia appeared to be Joseph Smith.

Sergeant Richard advised me to check an automotive shop at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> St., for Smith.

**02/03/04 – 1015 hours**

Detective Riva and I arrived at Saurus Auto Inc. located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street. When we approached the building, we where met by [REDACTED] advised that he had called in the information that the person in the video appeared to be Joseph Smith. [REDACTED] stated that Smith had called in sick for work today and was not there. Detective Riva went to speak with the landlord, Zdeno Balaz, while I spoke with [REDACTED]

*W*



█████ advised that his █████ came in this morning and told him he had to watch the news because she thought it was Joe Smith in the video with Carlie Bruscia. █████ said that he then went and watched the news. When he saw the video, he said that he immediately thought it was Smith. █████ said that he was 90-95% certain it was Smith based upon the body appearance and the movements of the man in the video. █████ also said that Smith routinely wore a mechanics outfit like the one the male in the video was wearing. The uniform was from a business that Smith used to own named Joe's Quality Auto. █████ thought that the name on Smith's uniform was Joe or Joseph.

█████ said that he had known Joe Smith for the past 4-5 years. In that time, he had grown to consider Smith a friend. Smith worked at Saurus Auto Inc. from 04/03 through 08/03 and then again from 12/03 to present. Smith left work in August when he was experiencing problems with drugs and depression. Smith was hospitalized voluntarily in August for having suicidal thoughts. Smith had been missing a lot of work lately and █████ said that Smith was experiencing drug and money problems.

█████ said that Smith was married with three kids but was estranged from his wife Luz E. Castailion-Smith W/F 05/02/62. Mrs. Castailion-Smith still resided in their residence at 2738 Ingot Place. Smith had moved out of that residence and was staying with friends Jeff and Mirni at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway.

█████ said that Smith drives a brown Lincoln Town Car, but the car has transmission problems and Smith had been unable to drive it. Smith sometimes borrowed his wife's vehicle which is a Tan 1998 Mercury Mystique with a Florida tag D50PMX.

█████ said that Smith's mother Pat Smith lives in North Port and his brother John Smith lives on Tuttle Ave. Smith's mother and brother both work at Accu Lab on Northgate, in Sarasota.

█████ said he would like to think that Smith would not be involved with this incident, but he does not know what he might do while he was on drugs. █████ said he called in because he has a daughter about Carlie Bruscia's age and would not want to see anything happen to her.

**02/03/04 – 1100 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway and drove by 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway. I saw a Brown Lincoln Town Car sitting on the road in front of the residence. Detective Riva advised that he saw a male subject similar in appearance to Smith smoking a cigarette on the front porch. We parked down the street so we could watch the house and

waited for Detective Davis to arrive. While waiting for Detective Davis, a Blue vehicle pulled up in front of the residence at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway and a female got in the car and left the residence.

**02/03/04 – 1120 hours**

Detective Davis arrived and we approached the residence. Detective Davis and Detective Riva approached the residence towards the front door. I approached the residence on the left side of the garage. There was a white fence surrounding the back yard to the residence. From the front left corner of the garage and driveway, I could see a tattooed arm of white male subject standing at the rear of the residence. When Detective knocked on the door the subject disappeared around the rear of the residence. Detective Davis knocked several times on the front and no one came to the door.

I spoke with the neighbors across the street at 2402 24<sup>th</sup> Way Eugenio Gonzalez Exposito, W/M 07/10/64 and Charlyc Ann McArthur, W/F 06/05/68. I asked them if they knew Joseph Smith and if he was at home. Mr. Exposito advised that they did not know who lived there, but that he was 100% certain that there was a male subject in the house. Mr. Exposito stated he saw two females leave in vehicles earlier before we got there, but a male subject stayed in the house.

Sergeant Sullivan responded to the scene and I advised him of what I saw and what the neighbors advised. Detective Davis, Detective Riva and I had been outside of the residence for approximately 30 to 45 minutes when Sergeant Sullivan arrived. While Detective Davis and I were briefing Sergeant Sullivan, an adult white female and juvenile white female arrived at the residence. The adult white female advised that she was Joseph Smith's sister. The sister entered the residence and asked Smith to come outside.

Smith came outside and spoke with Detective Davis. While Detective Davis was talking to Smith, Detective Riva and I waited at the street. While Detective Riva and I were waiting at the street, Correction Probation Officers Marcos Olivari and Linda Atkins arrived on scene.

After Detective Davis had been talking to Smith for awhile, Sergeant Sullivan came up and handed Detective Riva a set of keys. Sergeant Sullivan advised that Smith had given consent to search his vehicle. Sergeant Sullivan requested that Detective Riva and I search the vehicle; a Brown, 1988 Lincoln Town Car, Florida Tag I64KBL, VIN # 1LNB81F4JY781585. Detective Riva found a spoon under the front seat containing a burnt substance that appeared to be drugs. Detective Riva also found a box in the trunk that contained another spoon with a burnt substance that appeared to be drugs.

The box also contained a syringe. While Detective Riva and I were searching the vehicle, Correctional Probation Senior Supervisor Albert Roman and Correctional Probation Officer Kristie Hunt also arrived on scene. The spoons and syringe were turned over to the Correctional Probation Officer for their use on a Violation of Probation case on Joseph Smith. As Detective Riva and I were leaving the scene, Deputy Egan arrived to assist the Correctional Probation Officers.

**02/03/04 – 1339 hours**

I called [REDACTED] in reference to lead #41. [REDACTED] advised that the person in the video looked like a person named Seth Allen. [REDACTED] does not know if Allen is still in town and the last information that she heard is that he had left the area about a year ago and moved to Palm Beach County. [REDACTED] advised that she thought that Allen had an arrest history in Manatee County, but she was not sure. [REDACTED] was not able to provide any further information about Allen.

I checked in WinGS and in the Driver's License Database, with negative results. A criminal history check on the name Seth Allen resulted with negative results.

**02/03/04 – 1350 hours**

I called [REDACTED] in reference to lead #31. [REDACTED] advised that on Sunday 02/01/04, her [REDACTED] were at the Laundromat on Gulf Gate at approximately 1800 hours and saw a man similar looking to the man in the video.

I then spoke with [REDACTED] advised that on Sunday 02/01/04, she was at the Laundromat on Gulf Gate with her [REDACTED] advised that they noticed a man in a uniform staring at her. [REDACTED] said that they observed the man in the parking lot of the Laundromat from approximately 1830 hours to 2030 hours. The male subject was there from the time they got there and was still present when they left at approximately 2030 hours.

**02/03/04 – 1440 hours**

I called [REDACTED] in reference to lead #44. [REDACTED] advised that he lived on Beacon Drive and that last Tuesday at approximately 1100 hours, he saw a male subject walking down Beacon Drive that looked similar to the male in the video. The male subject was carrying a blue nap sack or duffel bag. [REDACTED] then saw the male subject again on Wednesday or Thursday and he appeared to have cleaned up. [REDACTED] believed that the subject could be hanging around in the area.

**02/03/04 – 1830 to 2100 hours**

I went to Bond Place with Deputy Cramer and conducted a neighborhood canvas.

**02/04/04 – 1330 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to Saurus Auto, Inc. located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street. I took a sworn audio taped statement from [REDACTED] in reference to the information that he provided me on 02/03/04. (For complete details listen to the audio taped statement). [REDACTED] advised that he forgot to tell me on 02/03/04, but he had heard that Smith was dating a woman named Alana (unknown spelling). [REDACTED] could not provide any additional information on Alana and did not know how to contact her.

[REDACTED] advised that he would search his corporate records and would provide me with copies of any records that related to Joseph Smith. [REDACTED] said he would call me when the records were ready.

Detective Riva interviewed Zdeno Balaz in a sworn audio taped statement in reference to the information that he provided on 02/03/04. (For complete details listen to the audio taped statement).

Mr. Balaz stated that he [REDACTED] called him the day before at 0900 hours told him to turn on the TV. Mr. Balaz turned on the TV and saw the video on Carlie Brucla's abduction. Mr. Balaz advised that the male in the video looked like Joe Smith. Mr. Balaz looked at the video because [REDACTED] told him that it looked like Joe, and then once he saw the uniform and the hair cut, he thought it looked like Joe also.

Mr. Balaz said that Joe wore a uniform like the one in the video. He could not remember the exact color of Joe's uniform, but believed it to be a brown or gray uniform. Mr. Balaz said that Joe would usually wear a white T-shirt underneath the uniform and would wear white sneakers. Mr. Balaz also said that the uniform that Joe wore had a patch on it, but he did not remember what the patch said.

Mr. Balaz arrived at Saurus Auto at approximately 1000 hours and he spoke with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] told Mr. Balaz that law enforcement had already been contacted about the subject in the video looking like Joe Smith.

Mr. Balaz met Joe Smith through [REDACTED] in March or April when Joe started working at Saurus Auto, Inc. Mr. Balaz said that he went to Europe for approximately five months and when he returned, Joe was not working at the auto shop. [REDACTED] told him

that Joe was no longer working there because of a drug problem. Then in December, Joe started working there again doing contract work for Balaz.

Mr. Balaz said that Joe had a key to the shop and the [REDACTED] because he would come in after hours and do some work. Mr. Balaz said that he came into the shop on a Saturday and found the shop a mess. It was not this past Saturday, but it was the Saturday before. Mr. Balaz told Joe that he was not to come into the shop any more when people were not there and that he changed the [REDACTED]

On Monday 02/02/04, Joe called Mr. Balaz at approximately 0930 to 1000 hours and told him that he could not go to work because his car was broken with a transmission problem. Mr. Balaz told Joe to give him his address and would pick him up for work. Mr. Balaz drove to 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway and picked Joe up and took him to work. It was approximately 1030 to 1100 hours when they arrived at the shop.

Mr. Balaz said that Joe started working, but he was always on the phone. Joe did not seem right to Mr. Balaz and he asked him what was wrong. Joe told him that he was having problems with high blood pressure, but he did not want to take any medication because he did not want to be on drugs. Mr. Balaz said that he asked Joe if he was taking marijuana and Joe told him, "No". At approximately 1300 hours, a white female came to the shop in a brownish colored minivan. Mr. Balaz asked Joe if the female was his sister and Joe told him that she was just a good friend. Mr. Balaz said that the female was there for approximately 20 minutes. Mr. Balaz described the female as looking similar to the girl in the video, but you could tell she was older and more developed. The female looked to be approximately 20 years old. At approximately 1400 hours, Mr. Balaz drove Joe home.

Mr. Balaz said that on Tuesday 02/03/04 between 0830 and 0900 hours, he called Joe to see if he was going to come to work. Joe told him he was not working today and that maybe he would tomorrow.

Mr. Balaz advised that at approximately 1200 to 1230 hours on 02/03/04, he received a phone call from Joe Smith asking why he called the police.

Latter in the day on 02/03/04, Mr. Balaz said the Joe's mother came to the shop. Joe's mother asked him why he called the cops and he told her that he did not call. Mr. Balaz said that Joe's mother was crying and said that she hoped the girl was okay.

Mr. Balaz said that Bud from Tire Kingdom came by the shop on the afternoon of 02/03/04. Bud told Mr. Balaz that he thought the man in the video was Joe.



**02/04/04 – 1530 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to USA Storage located at 2251 N. Washington Blvd. and spoke with the sales consultant. He checked his records and advised that there were no storage units in the name of Joseph Smith. Joe's Quality Auto was run out of Storage Unit I-17, but he had not been there since approximately 2001. A stereo business currently operates out of Unit I-17.

**02/04/04 – 1555 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to Tire Kingdom located at 1324 N. Washington Blvd. to attempt to locate "Bud". We were advised that it was Bud Clemons' day off and he would be working tomorrow.

**02/04/04 – 1617 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to 2402 24<sup>th</sup> Way and I interviewed Eugenio Gonzalez Exposito and Charlyce McArthur in sworn audio taped statements. (For complete details listen to the audio taped statement.

**02/04/04 – 1700 hours**

Sergeant Stroud advised me to go to 3814 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway and interview Haskel Clemons. Joseph Smith had called a cell phone number (941) 228-2566 from jail on 02/04/04 at 1458 hours. The cell phone came back to Haskel Clemons.

**02/04/04 – 1757 hours**

Detective Riva and I went 2720 51<sup>st</sup> Street where I took a sworn audio taped statement from Lynn Dinyes. (For complete details listen to the audio taped statement).

Mrs. Dinyes advised that on 02/03/04 at approximately 0600 to 0700 hours, she was watching SNN News and saw the video of the little girl. When Mrs. Dinyes saw the man's back as he approached the girl on the video she thought the man looked like Joseph Smith. Mrs. Dinyes advised that the way the man walked and the shape of his head lead her to the belief that the male was Smith. When the turned and faced towards the camera Mrs. Dinyes said that it really looked like Smith. Mrs. Dinyes said that the head and facial outline of the male in the video reminded her of Smith and he always wore a uniform like the one in the video.

Mrs. Dinyes advised that she has known Joseph Smith for approximately 3 or 4 years and met him through her [REDACTED] Mrs. Dinyes said that she would



consider Smith to be an acquaintance, but she knew him well enough to know him by sight.

Mrs. Dinyes said that she told her [REDACTED] to watch the video and that she thought the male was Joe Smith. After her [REDACTED] watched the video, he too felt that the subject was Joe Smith and told her that he was going to call the information into the police. Mrs. Dinyes told her [REDACTED] that she thought he should call because the male looked like Smith and that they should not take any chances and should let someone know.

Mrs. Dinyes said that she last saw Smith one night the previous week when he came over to visit her [REDACTED]. Mrs. Dinyes did not have any contact with Smith since and did not have any knowledge of Smith's activities on 02/01/04. Mrs. Dinyes said that she knew Smith has had a history of drug problems and had served time in prison for drug use.

**02/04/04 – 1836 hours**

Detective Riva and I went to 3814 27<sup>th</sup> Parkway and spoke with Haskel D. Clemons, B/M 03/28/44. Mr. Clemons advised that he goes by the name Bud Clemons and works at the Tire Kingdom located at 1324 N. Washington Blvd. Mr. Clemons said that he has known Joseph Smith since approximately 1995 or 1996 when he met him while they were both working at the Tire Kingdom located on Clark Rd.

Mr. Clemons said that on Tuesday morning 02/03/04, he was watching the news when he saw the video of Carlie Brucia's abduction. Mr. Clemons said that when he saw the man in the video, he thought it looked like Joseph Smith. Once Mr. Clemons got to work, he spoke with a co-worker named Bill Sherman. Mr. Clemons and Sherman discussed the video. Sherman stated to Mr. Clemons that he thought the male in the video looked like the guy who worked at Saurus Auto. Mr. Clemons told Sherman that he also thought the male in the video looked like Joe.

Mr. Clemons said that on his way home from work, he stopped by Saurus Auto and talked to Ed and Deno. Mr. Clemons said that he told Ed and Deno that he saw the video and thought the male in the video looked like Joe. Mr. Clemons said that Smith's mother was also there and she was upset and mad. Smith's mother said, "If Joe did this, I will get the truth out of him".

Mr. Clemons said that he last saw Smith on Friday 01/30/04 when Smith brought his wife's car in to see about getting a tire changed. The tire was out of stock and Mr. Clemons ordered the part in. The tire came in on 02/03/04 and Mr. Clemons went to Smith's wife's house located at 2738 Ingot Place in the afternoon and changed the tire.

On 02/03/04 Mr. Clemons said that he went by Jeff Pinkus' residence and spoke with him. Mr. Clemons said that Pinkus told him that Smith had called him from the jail.

I also spoke with Mr. Clemons' girlfriend, Barbara Demers, W/F 11/23/43. Ms. Demers said that she had also viewed the video, but she disagreed with Clemons and she did not think the male in the video was Joe, because Joe always wore his hair shorter than the male in the video. Ms. Demers said that she last saw Smith approximately three weeks ago when he briefly stopped by to see Mr. Clemons.

**02/05/04 – 1240 hours**

I called Ed Dinyes at 320-9179. Mr. Dinyes advised that he was out of town in Orlando on business. Mr. Dinyes said that Smith had a set of keys to Saurus Auto, Inc and that he knew the [REDACTED] Saurus Auto, Inc [REDACTED] Saurus Auto, Inc has a bathroom with a shower. The shower is not normally used and the bathroom is mainly used as a storage area.

Mr. Dinyes advised that Balaz did not open Saurus Auto for business because of the intense media presence outside. Mr. Dinyes provided me with Balaz's cell phone number 587-5049 in the event that I needed to reach him.



**02/05/04 – 1350 hours**

I called Ed Dinyes at 320-9179. Mr. Dinyes advised that he was in Orlando for the day, but gave verbal consent to search Saurus Auto Inc. located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

**02/05/04 – 1400 hours**

I received a call from Lynn Billings with the FBI Evidence Recovery Team. Billings advised that they were on their way from Tampa and would meet me at Saurus Auto, Inc.

**02/05/04 – 1410 hours**

I called Zdeno Balaz at 587-5049 and left a message for him to call me.

I then called Maria Balaz at 780-5723. Mrs. Balaz advised that she would have her husband call me.

**02/05/04 – 1446 hours**

I received a phone call from Zdeno Balaz. Mr. Balaz gave me verbal consent on the phone to search Saurus Auto Inc, located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Balaz advised that he would meet me at Saurus Auto Inc. at 1630 hours.

I called Lynn Billings with the FBI Evidence Recovery Team and advised her that Mr. Balaz would be meeting me at Saurus Auto Inc. at 1630 hours.

**02/05/04 – 1505 hours**

I called Waste Management at 924-1254 and spoke with Pat. I asked Pat if their employees could be notified to look out for any items that could be considered as evidence in the disappearance of Carlie Brucia. Pat advised that she would broadcast it to all of their employees to look out for anything and to contact the Sheriff's Office if anything was found.

**02/05/04 – 1600 hours**

I went to 3630 McIntosh Rd. I picked up a shoe, shirt, and a pair of pants that had been recently worn by Carlie Brucia.

**02/05/04 – 1650 hours**

I went to Saurus Auto Inc. located at 2135 12<sup>th</sup> Street where I met with Zdeno Balaz, the FBI Evidence Recovery Team, and the Sarasota County K9 Search and Rescue Team.

Mr. Balaz signed a Consent to Search form and the FBI Evidence Recovery Team began to search and process the building for evidence of the common areas of Saurus Auto Inc.

Once the FBI Evidence Recovery Team completed processing the business for evidence the Sarasota, K9 Search and Rescue Team approached the building. The K9 Search and Rescue members present were Chuck Johnston, K9 Leader, Wes Weysham, K9 Handler, Tracy Ross, Observer/Navigator, and Linc Hay, K9 Medical. I provided the K9 Search and Rescue Team with Carlie Brucia recently worn clothing.

K9 Search and Rescue entered Saurus Auto Inc. at 1833 hours. After K9 Search and Rescue completed its track Tracy Ross briefed me on the outcome. K9 Ruby entered the front office door of the business located on the South side of the building. K9 Ruby led them through the front office door and into the garage bay through the office door on the West Side of the room. K9 Ruby then led them through the garage bay to the rear overhead garage door on the North West Side of the building. The door opened into a fenced in area on the north side of the business. There were two cars parked in the fenced in area. K9 Ruby went between the two cars and showed interest near the front end of a beige Continental parked there. K9 Ruby then tracked over to the gate on the East Side of the business. Once K9Ruby left the yard no further interest was displayed on the track.

Wes Weysham advised that when he was taking K9 Ruby back to the vehicles which were parked in the parking lot of Fahey Pest Control located at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Manhattan Ave., K9 Ruby picked up a bone in the parking lot. The bone did not appear to be from a human, but I took the bone to Crime Scene Technician Miller to be sure. Crime Scene Technician Miller advised that the bone was definitely not human and appeared to be from a bird.

**02/06/04 – 1043 hours**

I called Waste Management at 924-1254 and spoke with Pat. I asked Pat what day was the trash picked up at 3664 Stoke Drive. Pat advised that trash was picked up on Thursdays and that the trash had already been picked up the day before and should have already been dumped at the landfill.

I had no further involvement in this case.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02/11/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 to date

**Det.:** R. Reilly #601 *RR*  
**tad**

**Supv:** Sgt. C. Iorio #367 *AI, 2*

**Copy to:** Det. C. Hallisey #747

**SUPPLEMENT**

**02/04/04**

I was assigned lead # 516, which indicated that a [REDACTED] had information regarding Joe Smith. At approximately 1800 hours [REDACTED] arrived at the Sheriff's Office and was subsequently interviewed.

[REDACTED] told me that he had known Joe Smith for approximately six years and also worked with him. [REDACTED] said that Smith used to live on Papai Drive near the abduction site. [REDACTED] said that Smith often changed jobs and worked at several tire stores such as Tire Kingdom and Tires Plus.

[REDACTED] also said that both he and his ex-wife watched the video and were positive that it was Joe Smith. [REDACTED] said he and his ex-wife were able to identify [REDACTED] by his shirt, the way he walked and both his hair and hairline. [REDACTED] also told us that Smith had a storage facility at Storage USA, 2251 N. Washington Blvd.

*W*

I responded to Storage USA and spoke with the owner, Dawn Nichol. Dawn checked their records and there were no records for a Joe Smith.

At approximately 2100 hours I received lead #510 and interviewed [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that he had known Joe Smith for approximately 10 years and used to live next door to him in a duplex located at 925 Royal Palm Drive.

[REDACTED] said that he also knew Smith's first wife, Julie Thornton, but did not know her whereabouts other than she was in central Florida. [REDACTED] said that he knew Smith picked up prostitutes and brought them to a park located off Rilma Drive in Sarasota. He said that Smith often talked about sex and viewed adult pornography. [REDACTED] also described an area near the airport Holiday Inn where Smith would take women. [REDACTED] said that Smith was actually arrested at that location by the Manatee County Sheriff's Office.

[REDACTED] told me that he recognized Smith from the videotape by the way he looked and the way he walked. [REDACTED] pointed out the park that he was referring to on a map of Sarasota. I drove to the park, which was located off Mecca Drive and did a drive through. There was an area of Heavy foliage that was unable to be checked at this time.

#### 02/05/04

I received lead # 580 and responded to McIntosh Middle School to interview [REDACTED] who was a friend of the victim. [REDACTED] reported that she received a phone call from a male caller the night before the victim was abducted.

I interviewed [REDACTED] and she told me that she was at the county fair either last December or November but she was not sure when. She also was not sure if the fair was in Manatee County or maybe St. Petersburg. [REDACTED] said that she went to the fair with her mother, mother's boyfriend and her sister. [REDACTED] said that while at the fair she ran into the victim and they went to get a drink together. She said that she bumped into a male who was standing in line and she said "I'm sorry". [REDACTED] told me that the male subject then started asking the girls their names and other personal question. [REDACTED] told me that the only thing they said was their first names to the guy.

[REDACTED] said that they walked away from the guy and he walked up behind them and grabbed them by the arm. [REDACTED] said that he asked the girls to go to his car with him and stated that it was nearby. [REDACTED] said that they told him no and walked away from him and got onto a ride. [REDACTED] said that he was a white male wearing dark jeans and a sleeveless undershirt and also wearing a dark ball cap. [REDACTED] said that she did not tell her mom about the incident and did not encounter the male again.



██████████ said that when she was at her father's house on Saturday night she received a phone call from a male who stated that he was going to take the victim on Sunday. ██████████ said that he told her that he would hurt the victim if she told anybody. ██████████ said that her father was not in the house at the time of the call and that the call was made to her father's cell phone.

██████████ said that she did not give the male subject her father's telephone number and did not even have it with her at the fair. She did not know how he would obtain the number.

After speaking with ██████████ at length, it did not appear to me that this information was accurate and it does not seem that it is valid information.

Sgt. Richard sent a subpoena requesting the phone records from the father's cell phone.

This concludes my involvement in this case at this time.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Fl.

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02/11/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 to date

**Det.: Sgt. B. Sullivan # 562**  
Ear *Sulo*  
**Copy to:**

**SUPV: Lt. R. Albritton # 147**

*RH88*

**SUPPLEMENT**

**02/01/04 2250 hours**

I received a phone call from Det. Stephanie Graham advising me that she was dispatched to assist Patrol in locating a missing eleven year old girl. Det. Graham requested information concerning the Amber Alert program. I advised Det. Graham that the criteria for an Amber Alert to be issued involved a confirmed abduction of the individual. Det. Graham stated that she had no evidence at this time that the girl, Carlie Brucia, had been abducted and they had entered her into NCIC/FCIC as a missing person / runaway.

Det. Graham stated that the family had requested that the media get involved. I advised Det. Graham that the family was free to contact the media concerning Carlie not returning home. I advised Det. Graham if she needed further assistance, to call me and I would respond.

**02/02/04 0750 hours**

At the North Criminal Investigations Bureau morning briefing I notified Sgt. Richard that I received a call from Det. Graham concerning a missing eleven year old. Sgt. Richard stated that he would have Det. Hallisey follow up with the SRO and the case would be re-assigned to him.

*W*

**1430 hours**

I received information from Sgt. Paul Richard that a video of the missing juvenile, Carlie Brucia, was obtained from a security camera at Evie's Car Wash, located on Bee Ridge Road. I told Sgt. Richard that I would respond to the SSO and assist in the investigation.

**1530 hours**

I arrived at the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office/CIB and began to prepare lead sheets. I further assigned various assignments to detectives and answered the TIPS phone line until approximately 0100 hours.

**02/03/04 0745 hours**

I arrived at the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, North CIB Division. I was assigned the duties of answering the Amber Alert phone, assigning leads to detectives, and assisting the State and Federal law enforcement agents present with the set up of their equipment.

**0850 hours**

Sgt. Richard advised that he needed two detectives assigned to locate and interview a Joseph P. Smith, DOB: 03/17/66. Sgt. Richard further stated they received a tip that Smith resembled the subject in the Evie's video.

Inv. Aide, J. Lombardi presented me with an investigative work up on Smith. I located Detectives Hilton and Riva and assigned them the task of locating and interviewing Joseph P. Smith.

**1135 hours**

I was advised by Captain Jeff Bell to respond to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway in Sarasota. Detectives Hilton, Davis and Riva were at that location, and they believed Joseph Smith was inside and he would not respond to their phone calls or their knocking at the door.

**1155 hours**

I arrived at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway and was briefed by Det. Riva and Hilton that they had arrived at this location at approximately 1100 hours and observed a W/M, similar in

appearance to Smith on the front porch of the residence talking on the telephone. They further advised that they approached the residence at 1120 hours and Det. Hilton observed a W/M walking towards the rear of the residence with tattoos on his arm. I advised Det. Riva to get into his vehicle and travel along the power lines at the rear of the residence and to secure a position behind the residence.

At approximately 1200 hours a small four door vehicle pulled up to the residence. This vehicle was operated by a W/F and also occupied by a W/F juvenile. I identified myself to the operator of the vehicle and inquired if she was meeting someone at the residence. She stated that she was meeting her brother, Joe. I asked for her name and she said her name was Rena and that she was Joe's sister. She stated that she had spoken to him at 0900 hours on the telephone that morning. I advised Rena that we had knocked on the door several times in an attempt to make contact with Joe Smith. I requested her assistance in making contact with Joe Smith. Rena went up to the front door and knocked on the door several times shouting Joe, Joe. Rena then tried the door handle and I advised her that we would stay outside the residence. I explained to her that if she wanted to go inside and look for her brother that was fine. Rena entered the residence and I could hear her yelling, Joe, Joe, Joe, and then the yelling stopped. Approximately one minute later Rena came out from the residence and stated that Joe was sleeping but would be out shortly.

A short time later a subject came out of the residence dressed in a long sleeve shirt. Det. Davis and I then made contact with him on the front porch. Det. Davis and the subject who identified himself as Joseph Smith sat down on a bench in front of the residence. Det. Davis explained to Joseph Smith why we were there, and that he resembled the unknown individual in the Evie's security videotape in which Carlie Brucia's abduction was captured. Det. Davis requested that I provide a still copy of the videotape, which was presented to Smith. Smith replied, "It looks like me but it is not me". Det. Davis also asked for Consent to Search Smith's vehicle and residence. Smith identified his vehicle as a brown Lincoln, which was sitting on the street in front of the residence. I walked over to the Lincoln and obtained the Florida Tag registration number and provided it to Det. Davis. Smith signed the Consent to Search form and at that time Joe's sister, Rena came over in an agitated state wanting to know what was going on.

I moved Rena from the area where Det. Davis and Smith were sitting to the end of the driveway by her vehicle. I explained to her that we were conducting an investigation into the disappearance of Carlie Brucia and that some people had identified her brother Smith as resembling the subject in the video. I asked Rena if Smith was having any family problems. She stated that he was going through a divorce. Rena stated that she responded to Smith's location today so Smith could work on her car as she was having car problems.

Probation Officers Linda Atkins and Probation Officer, Marcos Olivari arrived at approximately 1210 hours. I explained to them that we were conducting an investigation into the disappearance of Carlie Brucia. I further stated that we had received information that Joseph Smith resembled the subject in the videotape and Smith had consented to a search of his room and vehicle. Det. Davis, Joseph Smith, Linda Atkins, Marcos Olivari and I entered the residence located at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway. Smith took us to his room and showed Det. Davis mechanic shirts with the name "Joe" on them that he wore. Smith also provided me with the car keys to his brown Lincoln. Smith started to walk out the residence and I accompanied him outside. I gave the car keys to the brown Lincoln to Det. Riva and advised him to search the vehicle. I remained outside with Joseph Smith and his sister, Rena. Smith did not make any statements at that time. While outside, a female operating a 19923 Buick station wagon pulled into the driveway. Smith walked over to the female operator and said something to her, which I could not hear. The female exited the vehicle and identified herself as Naomi Pincus. Smith retrieved some cigarettes from Pincus and started to smoke on the porch area in front of the residence. I identified myself to Pincus and asked her about her activities and Joe Smith's activities on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Naomi Pincus stated that she and Smith went to Copher's Used Auto Parts and pulled auto parts for a vehicle and returned to their residence later on that day. She stated that she was not sure of the time but felt it was around noon because of it getting warmer out. I asked Pincus if Smith had left the residence during the day. She stated, "No I believe he was here up until the time I went to bed around 11:00 o'clock, and I don't know what he did after that." I instructed Pincus to go into her residence and make contact with Det. Davis for further interview.

Det. Riva advised me that narcotics paraphernalia was found in Smith's vehicle. A spoon was located under the front driver's seat and in the trunk area; a cardboard box contained a second spoon and a hypodermic syringe or needle. This spoon appeared to have narcotics residue on it. I alerted the Probation Officers that narcotics had been found in Smith's vehicle.

Det. Davis exited the residence and stated that Naomi Pincus had confirmed that Smith was at the residence on Sunday. Deputy Egan arrived and took Smith into custody. We then departed the area at that time.

**1320 hours**

I returned to the North CIB office and assisted in answering the Amber Alert tips phone line and assigning leads for follow up to detectives, State and Federal law enforcement personnel.

**1800 hours**

I was advised that two individuals were in the Sheriff's Office front lobby stating that they had information concerning the subject in the video. A detective was sent down there to make contact with them. I was later advised Naomi Pincus and her husband Jeffrey Pincus were the individuals downstairs and they had information that Joseph Smith had left the residence on Sunday with the station wagon. I continued to answer the Amber Alert Tips line and assign leads to the detectives until approximately 0200 hours.

**02/04/04 0745 hours**

I responded to North CIB where I was assigned the duties of assigning leads and answering the Amber Alert Tips line.

**1830 hours**

I was advised by Captain Jeff Bell to respond to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway with Det. Lane in order to conduct [REDACTED] on the residence until a Search Warrant could be executed at that location.

I arrived at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway at approximately 1900 hours with Det. Lane. Approximately 1920 hours I observed a blue vehicle occupied by a W/F pulling out of the residence. I stopped this vehicle and identified myself. I made contact with the operator of the vehicle. The operator stated her name was Tina Castro and that she lived at the residence. Castro further stated that her parents were out to dinner but would be arriving home shortly. I asked Castro if she had given a statement to detectives concerning Joseph Smith, and she stated that she had not.

**1920 hours**

I took a sworn statement from Castro and asked her if she had seen the video of Carlie's abduction. Castro replied that she had. I asked her if she had any idea who that male might be that approached Carlie. Castro stated, "You can definitely tell the facial structure is exactly like Joe's and he has the same outfit like that he wears." For further information refer to Tina Marie Castro's statement.



Det. Lane and I along with Lt. Albritton stood by while the Search Warrant was executed on the residence until approximately 2330 hours.

**02/05/04 0745 hours**

I responded to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, North CIB office and manned the Amber Alert phone and assisted with assigning leads.

**1930 hours**

I was advised by Captain Bell to assign detectives to conduct [REDACTED] on John Smith's residence at 7270 South Leewynn Drive, Sarasota, Florida. I assigned Det. Riva, Mercurio, Minchin, Ojeda, Kennard and Osborne to respond to the area of 7270 S. Leewynn and set up a perimeter [REDACTED] of the residence. Units arrived at the aforementioned location and set up a loose perimeter with Det. Mike Mercurio being assigned primary [REDACTED] unit of the residence.

**2245 hours**

We were advised to terminate the [REDACTED]. I returned to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, North CIB office.

**2330 hours**

Sarasota County Deputy Michael Devino who is assigned as a correction officer came to my office and gave a taped statement in regards to overhearing a phone conversation by Joseph P. Smith earlier in the evening. For further information refer to Deputy Devino's statement.

**0019 hours**

I took a statement from Corrections Lt. Robert Gill concerning Deputy Devino's actions and activities of inmate Joseph P. Smith. For further information refer to Lt. Gill's witness statement.

**02/06/04 1000 hours**

I responded to the Central Church of Christ, 6221 Proctor Rd. and relieved Lt. Ron Albritton from that location.

**1330 hours**

I interviewed Minister Rod Myers who stated that he had researched records and they could not find any connection with Joseph P. Smith or Carlie Brucia to the Central Church of Christ. I departed the Central Church of Christ at approximately 1500 hours.

**02/07/04 1300 hours**

I was contacted via phone by Sgt. Paul Richard requesting that I respond to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Victim Assistance offsite location at 1500 hours to interview a subject who purported to have information concerning Carlie's mother.

**1500 hours**

I arrived at Victim's Assistance and made contact with Sue White. Sue White informed me that the persons that wanted to speak to me would be there at approximately 1600 hours.

**1610 hours**

Six individuals who declined to be tape recorded or produce identification stated that they were friends of Susan Schorpen, Steven Kansler and Carlie. They stated that they felt that Carlie would not have gone willingly with the person that abducted her. They had concerns that Susan may have known Smith or that Carlie had met Smith at one time. All stated that during their relationship with Susan and Carlie, the name Joseph Smith had not been mentioned to them nor had they ever met Joseph Smith.

**02/09/04 0830 hours**

At a meeting conducted at the North Criminal Investigation Bureau, I was assigned the duties of compiling and reviewing the "leads" received concerning this case.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carl Brucila **CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide **DATE TYPED:** 2/11/04  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:**

**Det.:** Capt. S.P. Matosky #19  
**Ear** *Carl S.P. Matosky #19*  
**Copy to:**

**Supv.:** Major K. Gooding #3 *K. Gooding*

**SYNOPSIS**

**2/3/04 0930-1500 Hrs.**

On this date & time, I was requested to check with area Uniform Supply-Cleaning Services to determine if any leads could be developed on the subject or uniform in the surveillance camera photo from Evie's Car Wash. The following businesses and contacts were made:

- 1.) ALSCO (National Linen Service) - 1100 N. Lime Av., Sarasota. 366-5950. Contact was made with Mickey Elliott (General Manager). Neither he nor any of his Supervisors could identify the subject or the uniform in the surveillance photo. Mr. Elliott advised not to discount the Tampa Uniform Supply businesses as they sold and cleaned uniforms to his knowledge in our area.
- 2.) Palm Coast Linen Service- 3623 S. Tuttle Av., Sarasota. 925-9137. Contact was made with Manager Poppy Rosano, who advised they only cleaned linens, no information on the subject or uniform in the photo.
- 3.) Value Cleaners- 3856 So. Tuttle Av., Sarasota. 924-2502. Manager Claire Martinez could not identify the subject or uniform in the surveillance photo, or provide any other leads.

*w*

**2/3/04 0930-1500 Hrs.**

**4.) Towels & Uniforms- 5750 S. Trail, Sarasota. 925-3855**

The owner Tony D'Alberto advised he gets orders from "hundreds" of businesses for shirts similar to the one in the surveillance photo. Without any better information, he could provide no leads.

**5.) Uniform Center- 1922 Bay Road, Sarasota. 373-0029**

Contact was made with the owner Bill Mats. Neither he nor his two workers could identify the subject or uniform in the surveillance photo. They advised they rarely dealt with that type of uniform shirt.

At this time, I began checking on other business and follow-up sources to determine if any leads could be developed. The following Trophy & Awards companies were contacted:

**1.) Sarasota Trophy & Awards- 6601 Superior Av., Sarasota. 921-4339**

Contact was made with the owner Ken Levanti. Either he or any of his employees could identify the "nametag-patch" on the subject's uniform shirt from the surveillance photo. It was this company's "opinion" that it was a square "pin on " type of nametag. They looked at it under an engravers magnifying glass and advised that there was something "vertical" on the right hand side of the nametag. They thought that there was a "logo" in the middle with something in dark writing at the top left hand side that appeared to be a name.

(\* One employee thought he could make out the name Larry or Leroy).

**2.) The Trophy Shoppe- 429 N. Lime Av., Sarasota. 955-2440**

Contact was made with the owners Harry Stenger & Darlene Wall. Neither one could positively identify the "name tag-patch" on the subjects shirt in the surveillance photo. Different than the Sarasota Trophy & Awards, the owners of this business thought it might be an "embroidered" patch on the uniform. The owners advised they had done hundreds of these type logo name tag-patches, and could not provide any leads on any one specific company. The one owner Harry Stenger, thought the logo on the name tag-patch might be a "City of Sarasota" emblem.

**\*\*Note- See City of Sarasota emblem follow-up further in this report.**

- 3.) The Incredible Machine- 7212 S. Tamiami Tr., Sarasota. 921-3366  
Contact was made with the owner Steve Jordan. He also thought the "name tag-patch" on the uniform shirt in the surveillance photo was a square "pin on" type of nametag. He could provide no further information or leads on the name tag-patch.

**02/03/04 1500 hours**

Contact had been made with Harry Stenger, owner of The Trophy Shoppe; 429 N. Lime Avenue, Sarasota. After looking at "nametag-patch" in the surveillance photo picture with an engravers magnifying glass, he thought he could make out the "City of Sarasota" emblem on the nametag.

I responded to the Sarasota City Hall Auditor and Human Resources (Federal Building), and made contact with the following employees:

Human Resources/City Auditor – Diane Vanderwest, Kurt Hoverter, Linda McKinney, Gail Loeffler and Jane Berkey. These City employees showed me the types of nametags used by the City of Sarasota, and none seemed to match the one in the surveillance photo. They further advised they could not advise of any city departments that currently used a navy blue or dark shirt similar to the one seen in the surveillance photo.

**02/04/04 0900 hours**

On this date and time, Jane Berkey contacted me at work and advised she had located an old City of Sarasota nametag. After looking at it, she stated that it looked nothing like the nametag in the surveillance photo. (\*Described as photo top left hand corner, right half of the nametag had employee name, department, job title, date issued, and signature of the Sarasota City Manager).

**02/05/04 1000 hours**

On this date and time, Sgt. Sullivan asked me to write up "lead sheets" on the following three leads that had been received on this case:

1. [REDACTED] (Private Citizen) – FBI/Pinellas had followed up on her information.
2. NCMEC (National Center for Missing and Exploited) Lead – Information that a vehicle matching the description of the suspect in the surveillance photo had been seen in the area of a development under construction

called Twin Rivers, between Ellington and Sarasota. (\*This lead was reassigned out to an Investigator).

3. [REDACTED] s/Van Dyne Crotty; Uniform Supply Company (\*Fax from business). Information on (14) businesses this subject provided uniform services in our area.

2/5/04 1030 Hrs.

On this date & time, I contacted [REDACTED] with Van Dyne & Crotty [REDACTED] advised that he had no specific information on the suspect or uniform seen in the surveillance video photos. [REDACTED] advised that he was just providing information on businesses that deal with uniform supply should that give us more contacts for follow-up.

2/6/04 0830 Hrs.

At this time, I was advised a suspect's identity had been confirmed from the surveillance video photo. No other contacts were made with Uniform Supply-Cleaning Services.

I have no further information regarding this case.



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
5' 120lbs. Blonde/Blue  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Fl.

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02/12/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 – 02/07/04

**Det.:** Collier R. Cundiff #1831  
**Ear** C.R.C #1831  
**Copy to:**

**Supv.:** Sgt. Chris Iorio #367

RH488

**SUPPLEMENT**

**WITNESS :**

Robert S. Kaufman Jr.  
W/M 12/03/80  
2228 Vinson Ave.  
Sarasota, Fl.  
377-8669

**02/05/04**

Sgt. Barry Sullivan told me that a Robert Kaufman was waiting in the lobby and wished to speak with a detective about his relationship with Joseph Smith. After being brought to an interview room, Robert said that he had known Joseph Smith for about seven years. After seeing the car wash surveillance video, Robert thought that the suspect looked like Joseph Smith. He had not spoken to Joe for about two years, but knew that he owned several mechanic uniforms that looked identical to what the suspect was wearing. Robert often heard Joseph talk about raping women and said that he was a very smooth talker (see transcribed interview).

W

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, FL  
941-377-4480

**CASE #:**04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplemental

**DATE TYPED:**02-12-04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02-03-04 through 02-05-04

**Det.:** M. Peters #1634  
Ear

**Suppy.:** Sgt. T. Stroud #578  
*(TS)*

**Copy to:** Detective Hallisey #747

**Supplemental Report**

**02/03/04 1100 hours**

Detective Bollinger and I responded to ASAP Rental located at 5377 McIntosh Road in regards to tip TP16 which stated the suspect on the video aired on television looked like an employee who used to work there. I spoke with the manager [REDACTED] who stated that the subject in question was an ex-employee named Scott M. Kansler 8-24-69 who had quit sometime ago. Additionally he stated that Scott is the brother of Carlie's stepfather.

[REDACTED] was able to provide me with Scott's information.

W

**02/03/04 1600 hours**

I received a telephone call from Paul Grier who is an employee of ASAP Rental on McIntosh Rd. He stated that he had some information in regards to the Carlie Brucia case and requested that I come out and speak with him.

**02/03/04 1648 hours**

Detective Bollinger and I responded back to ASAP Rental at 5377 McIntosh Road Sarasota.

**02/03/04 1658 hours**

Detective Bollinger and I took an audio taped statement from Mr. Grier. He stated that Steven Kansler had come to ASAP earlier that morning to drop off some fliers. He had met Paul Grier at the door when he was seeking permission to hang the fliers in the store. Paul assisted Mr. Kansler and told him that his girlfriend worked for Manatee County EMS and he might be able to get her to put some fliers around the various fire stations in Manatee County if he has some extra ones. Steven Kansler then asked Paul to come out to his van to get some fliers.

Once outside, Steven and Paul engaged in conversation. Steven asked Paul if he was the "Paul" who used to hang out and get in trouble with his brother Scott. Paul told him yes he was, but he had since changed his ways. Steven then asked Paul when this incident blew over in a couple of days if he might be able to get him some steroids. The conversation then stopped and Steven left.

Throughout the day Paul kept thinking of what Steven had told him. When he overheard Detective Bollinger and I speaking with Mr. Mullins earlier, stated that it even intrigued his mind more because Scott Kansler, the possible ex employee of ASAP Rentals who was possibly the suspect in the video, was Steven's brother (Carlie's stepfather). Paul also knew that that Kanslers had a narcotics addiction and he couldn't help but wonder if Carlie was being used as a pawn for a drug debt.

Paul Grier stated that he had to get this off his chest and that he found it extremely strange that Steven was looking to "score" some steroids when his stepdaughter was the victim of an apparent abduction. Paul stated he had no children of his own, but his girlfriend's children were around Carlie's age and he wouldn't be able to think about anything if he was in Steven's shoes. Additionally he didn't understand how Steven knew that this would "all blow over in a few days".

The statement was concluded and Detective Bollinger took possession of the audiocassette.

**02/03/04 1910 hours**

Deputy Northfield #1503 and I canvassed the east side of Pamell Drive in Sarasota, Florida as directed by Sgt. Stroud.

**02/05/04 1400 hours**

Detective Lane and I responded to a vacant field adjacent to the railroad tracks on 12<sup>th</sup> Street in Sarasota just west of Lime, located near the automotive shop where the suspect had worked. Deputy Olree #1111 and K-9 Raiden checked the area with negative results and such findings were turned into the lead's coordinator.

**02/15/04 1715 hours**

Detective Bollinger and I arrived at Jesse's Country Store 3605 North Lockwood Ridge Road in Sarasota. I met with W/M Billy Franklin (941-355-3062) who stated that he and his son were checking vacant lots as the news had instructed them to do for the possible body of Carlie Brucia. While checking the lot to the south of Jesse's Country store he observed what he thought was possibly a grave. The area was approximately eight feet by five feet in size. He stated that he wasn't sure what it was and requested that we check.

Detective Bollinger and I observed the finding and were unable to determine what was beneath without further investigation. I contacted Sgt. B. Sullivan and advised him of the findings. He had the Sheriffs Office Forensics Unit respond as well as a cadaver location dog.

**02-05-04 1800hours**

Deputy Olree #1111 of the Sheriffs Office and K-9 Raiden arrived, as did Forensics Technician L. Lanham. Deputy Olree and K-9 Raiden checked the area and Deputy Olree received an alert that appeared to be positive. Technician Lanham requested that Technician Maxine Miller respond to the scene, as she is the Forensics Services archeological specialist.

**02-05-04 1830hours**

Technician Miller and Technician Andrus responded. They began a dig of the site to determine what was beneath the soil.

**02-05-04 1845hours**

Forensics Sgt. S. Sullivan responded also to assist. The excavation revealed negative results and was determined to be a burrough for wildlife.

This concludes my involvement in this case.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F, 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida 34232  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
School  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide

**DATE** 02/12/04

**TYPED:**

**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:**

**DET:** Jeff Lane #1110 *J. E. L.*  
Omb

**SUPV:** Sgt. T. Stroud #578

**COPY TO:** Detective Hallisey #747

**RELATED CASE(S):** Kissimmee Police Dept. C# 0104000873  
Osceola County Sheriff's Office C# 041009063

*R4488*

**INDEX**

**WITNESS/OTHER:**

1) Investigator Brandon Layne  
Kissimmee Police Department  
407-847-0176 ext 3242

2) Sergeant Norm Lanphere  
Kissimmee Police Department  
407-847-0176 ext 3235 – work  
321-624-6101 – cellular

3) Sergeant Dan Davies  
Kissimmee Police Department  
407-847-0176 – work

*W*



4) Detective Daric Harvey  
Osceola County Sheriff's Office  
407-348-1150

5) Edward David Dority  
W/M, 4-25-52  
6', 180, Hazel/Brown  
509 W. Verona Street  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
321-246-2109 – cellular  
(Complainant/witness that reported seeing  
suspect and victim)

6) Cynthia L. Luna  
W/F, 7-29-63  
5', 112, Brown/Brown  
3416 Dunbar Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
941-342-9367 – home  
941-685-4607 – cellular

7) Robert G. Williams  
W/M, 6-9-41  
4471 Meadow Creek Circle  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
941-922-6429 – home

8) Isidro Hernandez  
H/M, 7-28-67  
5'8", 185, Black/Brown  
5307 Desoto Place #A  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
941-358-5165 – home  
Employed: Designer Marble & Granite  
1227 Mango Avenue  
Sarasota, FL 34237  
941-365-4209 – work

9) Jeremy Reeves (Inmate #1 – bunkmate)  
W/M, 6-14-83

10) Mark W. Boron (Inmate #2)

W/M, 9-29-60

11) Michael C. Heckerman (Inmate #3)  
W/M, 2-14-86

12) Robert C. Ligon (Inmate #4)  
W/M, 11-14-74

13) Daryl B. Williams (Inmate #5)  
B/M, 12-24-74

14) Arthur B. Hinson (Inmate #6)  
B/M, 9-10-69

15) Eric M. Carnegie (Inmate #7)  
B/M, 12-4-71

16) Benjamin F. Jackson (Inmate #8)  
B/M, 4-25-72

17) Cornell J. McCall (Inmate #9)  
B/M, 5-19-83

18) Andrew E. Young (Inmate #10)  
B/M, 8-5-63

19) Everett Wagner (Inmate #11)  
W/M, 7-26-79

20) Kevin P. Moore (Inmate #12)  
9-14-77  
(Bunkmate for one day)

21) Jermaine Outing (Inmate #13)  
6-5-80

**ATTACHMENTS TO REPORT:**

Osceola County Sheriff's Office Reports x2  
Kissimmee Police Department Property Receipt  
Sarasota Sheriff's Office Property Receipts x2

**2-3-04 – 0900 hours**

I was contacted by Sergeant Stroud via the phone and advised to respond to the Brucia residence (3630 McIntosh Road). He requested that I obtain the most recent pillowcase that Carlie had used on her bed, the most recent pair of shoes Carlie had worn, and to properly secure them separately in a paper-bag. I was advised to respond to the Venice Airport to meet with Sergeant Jernigan in our Aviation Unit and fly to Kissimmee, Florida, to meet with authorities in Kissimmee, due to a witness reporting he had observed the suspect, the suspect's vehicle and Carlie in Kissimmee that morning at approximately 0600 hours.

Approximately ten minutes later, I arrived at the Brucia residence and obtained the above mentioned items. I made contact with Detective Graham, who was present at the scene, and informed her of why the items were being obtained. I then left the Brucia residence and was contacted again by Sergeant Stroud and informed that the Sheriff's Department helicopter would be waiting for me at Twin Lakes Park located off of Clark Road where I was to respond immediately with the items. I then proceeded to Twin Lakes Park where I met with Sergeant Jernigan and we flew to Kissimmee, Florida.

**2-3-04 – 1000 hours**

Sergeant Jernigan and I arrived in Kissimmee at a pre-determined location (parking lot of Target Store) and met with Sergeant Norm Lanphere, with the Major Crimes Unit at the Kissimmee Police Department, and also met with Sergeant Dan Davies, with the Kissimmee Police Department Patrol Bureau. Upon my arrival, I supplied the K-9 handler the items that were taken from Carlie's bedroom, in order for them to conduct a scent search of the area they had secured and wanted to search upon our arrival. Sergeant Lanphere escorted me over to the location, which was off of Vine Street/192 in Kissimmee. The location that the witness stated he observed the suspect in the vehicle with the victim was directly across the street from the location that Sergeant Jernigan landed at. Sergeant Lanphere informed me that the witness had been with his investigators since he had contacted them and filed the information report. He stated the witness was being thoroughly interviewed by his investigators and he would supply me with the audio taped and videotaped interview, which was conducted by his investigators. While on scene, I was informed by Sergeant Lanphere and other patrol officers from the Kissimmee Police Department that the witness contacted the Kissimmee Police Department at 6:41 a.m. that morning and made the report. They stated the witness informed them he was sure that the subject was in deed the suspect he had seen on TV and after seeing the suspect and victim on the local news, he was certain the subjects he observed were those in question. I was informed that the witness was able to give a composite sketch of the subject that he observed and that

the sketch was being conducted at this time. The patrol officers informed me that the witness stated the female subject in the car was crying and visibly upset, and he had heard yelling and screaming. He stated he observed a young girl jump out of the rear driver's side door of the vehicle and began running, and a white male driver got out and began chasing her. The witness stated he observed the female subject running and she ended up falling. The witness stated the white male also fell, but was able to get back up and chase after the female. The witness stated that while the male subject was chasing the female, he was yelling "Get back here". The witness stated the white male subject was not able to catch the female, so he ran back to his vehicle, got in it, and drove off in the direction the female was fleeing on foot. The description the witness gave of the male subject was 6'1" – 6'2", 200 pounds, 30 to 35 years of age, and wearing a hat backwards with unknown writing on the front of it. He stated he was wearing blue pants, white sneakers, and had a dark colored pullover or sweatshirt on. The witness described the female subject as wearing a light red shirt, blue jeans, carrying a pink backpack or bag and having dirty blonde hair. The witness described the vehicle he observed the subjects were in as a green or bluish colored four door Toyota with a rear spoiler on the trunk and some type of unknown rims. (The Kissimmee Police Department's case number relating to this incident was case number 0104000873). Several K-9 searches were conducted in the area the witness stated he observed the suspect and victim using articles of the victim to no avail.

After the conclusion of the last K-9 search, I was informed by Sergeant Lanphere that his investigator was bringing the witness (Edward David Dority) to the parking lot of the Target Store, which was the area where I had previously arrived. Sergeant Lanphere and I drove back to the landing zone where I met with Investigator Layne with the Kissimmee Police Department who had conducted an interview with Mr. Dority. When I met with Investigator Layne, he gave me a completed composite sketch that was completed with the witness, as well as the videotaped and audio taped interview. Investigator Layne did not provide any other information to me, which had not been relayed to me previously.

#### 2-3-04 -1215 hours

I met with Mr. Dority in the parking lot and introduced myself to him. I asked Mr. Dority if he would explain to me in detail the circumstances surrounding his possible observation of the suspect, victim and the suspect's vehicle. Mr. Dority stated that he did not call this incident in until 20 or 30 minutes had passed before placing the call. Mr. Dority's statements concerning his observations were consistent with the information I had been briefed with by officers from the Kissimmee Police Department. Mr. Dority described the female's backpack as a light colored pink or cream. He stated the white female subject was yelling/screaming and the white male subject was yelling, "Get back here". After interviewing Mr. Dority, I informed him that agents from the FBI

Orlando Office were enroute to meet with us and asked him to stay so that he could meet with the agents. Mr. Dority agreed to stay. While speaking with Mr. Dority, I asked him if he would agree to take a polygraph exam concerning the statements he had made. I explained the reason for the polygraph being given, which was to confirm without reservation the statements he was making. Mr. Dority agreed to take a polygraph exam. I informed him he would be given a polygraph exam with the assistance of the FBI Orlando Field Office.

I was then contacted by Detective Daric Harvey (407-344-5235) with the Osceola County Sheriff's Office. Detective Harvey had arrived at our location and informed me of a suspicious incident report, which had been taken during the night concerning a young female subject that had run from the vehicle and was recaptured by a white male subject and then placed back into the vehicle. Detective Harvey did supply me with a copy of the report that was taken by the responding deputy. He also informed me that the tag on the suspected vehicle had been copied down and it came back registered to a Scott Lamar Dorsey, white male, 4-5-69. Detective Harvey stated that during his investigation he discovered that Mr. Dorsey had a son, Brandon Thompson, white male, 11-1-83, and that he had a job at a Ford Dealership as a mechanic in Pensacola, Florida. Detective Harvey stated he had no indication that Mr. Dorsey or his son were responsible for the abduction of Carlie; however, they were trying to obtain as much information on them as possible to either eliminate them or continue to investigate them. Detective Harvey stated that he had spoken with Cathy Stinson with the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office, who was researching more information on Mr. Dorsey's son, Brandon. Detective Harvey supplied me with the phone number to reach Cathy Stinson (850-983-1227).

While in Kissimmee conducting follow up investigations on the current leads at hand, I was in contact with Detective Hallisey and Sergeant Stroud different times throughout the day. During one of my phone conversations with Detective Hallisey, he informed me that agents from the FBI Orlando Field Office were enroute to meet with me in Kissimmee and would assist in following up leads on Mr. Dorsey and Brandon, in connecting any investigation in Santa Rosa County that needed to be done. Sergeant Stroud informed me that the FBI Agents would arrange for Mr. Dority to be given a polygraph exam concerning his statements.

At approximately 1500 hours, on this date, agents from the FBI Orlando Field Office did respond (Debra Weyrauch, 407-875-9976). Agent Weyrauch was briefed on the entire incident by myself and then introduced to Sergeant Lanphere and Mr. Dority. Agent Weyrauch was given copies of reports obtained from Osceola County Sheriff's Office and given a copy of the completed composite sketch done by the Kissimmee Police Department. Agent Weyrauch stated she would arrange for Mr. Dority to be given a polygraph exam concerning his statements. Agent Weyrauch also stated she would

have other FBI Agents within Florida follow up on other leads outside of Orlando. After Agent Weyrauch had been thoroughly briefed, no further investigation was needed to be conducted in Kissimmee and Sergeant Jernigan and I flew back to Sarasota County.

**2-3-04 - 1610 hours**

I arrived back in Sarasota County and responded back to C.I.B. Once at C.I.B., I briefed the investigators on the information and leads that had been investigated in Kissimmee and then began investigating current leads that were coming in through the Amber Hotline.

**2-3-04 - 1800 hours**

I attended a briefing on the investigation, along with other investigators, which was held at the Sheriff's Office. This briefing covered how a neighborhood canvass was going to be conducted and surveys were handed out for the proper documentation to be filled out during the canvasses of the surrounding neighborhoods where the victim was last seen. Deputy Micale and I were assigned as a team, and covered a specific street in the area, which was northwest of Evie's Car Wash (Bond Place and Barton Drive). Once Deputy Micale and I had finished the neighborhood canvass on the street we were assigned to, I was contacted by Sergeant Stroud and asked to respond to Evie's Car Wash to meet with a witness who had observed a subject, which she believed matched the description of the subject that we were looking for.

**2-3-04 - 2105 hours**

Deputy Micale and I arrived at the parking lot of the Sparkle Brite Pool Store, which is located next to Evie's Car Wash. I made contact with Detective Carroll who had the witness present with him. I was able to interview the witness alone inside of Evie's Car Wash. Once inside Evie's Car Wash, I met with Cynthia L. Luna, white female, 7-22-63, which was the witness who called the Sheriff's Office stating she had observed a subject behind the pool store who she thought matched the description of the subject that we were looking for in this investigation. Luna stated that the subject she had seen was acting very suspicious. She observed the subject standing in the roadway on McIntosh Lane looking around. She described him as 6' - 6'3", black hair, sideburns, hair was at neck level. Subject was wearing a blue jacket with what appeared to be white stripes going down the sleeves of the jacket, Dickies type blue pants, and white tennis shoes. Luna stated she was approximately 30 feet away when she observed the side view of the subject and believed that his description matched the description of the subject that was being sought in this investigation. Luna stated that her car was parked on McIntosh Lane, next to the fence of Evie's Car Wash. She stated she was at her car giving fliers out to a family who asked for them concerning the information on Carlie.



Luna stated she was getting ready to leave the area with her daughter when she and her daughter observed a subject walking toward the alley between the Pool Store and adjacent building. Luna stated that she drove to the front parking lot of the Pool Store and she observed the subject standing in the grass between the businesses. Luna stated the subject began walking towards the command post, which was stationed in the front parking lot of Evie's Car Wash, and began flipping up his jacket collar and putting his hands in his jacket pockets. Luna stated that when she observed a side view of the subject, he appeared to exactly match the description of the suspect in the surveillance video that was being shown in this investigation. Luna stated that she went back to the Brucia residence, because she is good friends with the Brucia family, and told the deputy who was assigned to the Brucia residence. The deputy notified other surrounding deputies and they responded to the area to look for the subject. After initially taking Luna's statement, I asked her if she would walk me to where she was parked and where she observed the subject. As Luna and I walked through the grassy area between the Pool Store building and other office buildings, which is where she had observed the subject, I observed a white male subject sitting in his truck staring at us. As I approached closer, he started up his truck and began leaving the area. The subject was acting suspicious by staring at me and as he began backing out of the parking lot of the Pool Store, he made sure to keep his attention on me instead of his actions of operating his vehicle.

At this time, I made contact with the subject. He was later identified as Robert G. Williams, white male, 6-9-41. I introduced myself to Mr. Williams and asked if I could speak with him. Mr. Williams stopped his truck and agreed to step out of his truck to speak with me. Once he was out of his truck, I observed a Miami Dolphin's jacket inside his truck, which matched the description of the jacket that Ms. Luna stated the subject was wearing. I asked Mr. Williams if he would put his jacket on for me, which he did. I asked Ms. Luna if this was the subject she had observed. Ms. Luna stated that once Mr. Williams put his jacket on, she was positive he was the subject that she had observed. I informed Williams of the information that had been provided to me from Luna concerning him and asked him if he would voluntarily come to the Sheriff's Office to be interviewed reference his actions. Mr. Williams agreed to come to the Sheriff's Office and was transported by Deputy Rowe.

I was then asked by Lieutenant Albritton to respond back to the Sheriff's Office to interview Mr. Williams and that Detective Luce would take taped statements from Ms. Luna and the other female witness that was with her that observed Mr. Williams. (See taped statements taken by Detective Luce from Ms. Luna and the other female witness for further details).

**2-3-04 – 2228 hours**

Sergeant Iorio and I made contact with Mr. Williams in the interview room in C.I.B. I again informed Mr. Williams of the reason for needing to speak with him and the statements that had been made about him by witnesses that observed him at Evie's Car Wash. Mr. Williams stated that he was present at the Car Wash. He stated that he had been watching this investigation and obtaining information from the news when they mentioned the Car Wash on Bee Ridge Road, which he stated he was not familiar with. He stated he left his residence and drove to the command post sight so he could become familiar with the area where the Car Wash and where the abduction had taken place. He stated once at the scene, he was intrigued by the large number of media and the press conference that was being held and stayed to observe the action. Mr. Williams stated that once the press conference was over, he did walk into the neighborhood on McIntosh Lane and ended up walking through the grassy area between the Pool Store building and the other office building. After interviewing Mr. Williams, Sergeant Iorio and I determined that he had not committed any crime and that his actions may have been suspicious to others, but did not warrant any further investigation. Mr. Williams was then escorted out of C.I.B. and provided with a ride by Deputy Tuck to pick up his vehicle at the parking lot at Sparkle Brite Pool Store.

**2-3-04 – 2230 hours (approximately)**

Detective Hallisey and I went to the Sarasota County Jail and contacted Joseph Smith and escorted him back over to C.I.B. to be interviewed. Once we arrived in C.I.B., I was asked by Sergeant Richard to return back to the jail and interview the inmates that were in the same cellblock as Joseph Smith. FBI Special Agents Dave Street, John Kutchea and I responded back to the jail to interview thirteen inmates that had occupied the same cellblock as Joseph Smith. A total of thirteen inmates were interviewed and out of the thirteen inmates, two inmates were either current or previous bunkmates of Joseph Smith. A previous bunkmate and one other inmate in the cellblock were the only two that were able to provide any information concerning Joseph Smith.

The first inmate interviewed was inmate #1 (Jeremy D. Reeves, white male, 6-14-83), who was currently Joseph Smith's bunkmate. He was not able to provide any information. Inmate #11 (Everett Wagner, white male, 7-26-79) provided information that he had spoken with Joseph Smith in the cellblock. He stated Joseph had told him he was a mechanic and he observed Joseph on the phone four or five times. Inmate #12 (Kevin P. Moore, white male, 9-14-77) was interviewed by FBI Agent Dave Street. He stated that he was a bunkmate of Joseph Smith for one day. He stated that he observed Joseph on the phone twice, but did not hear any conversation. All the other remaining inmates interviewed were not able to provide any information concerning Joseph Smith.

**2-5-04 – 1800 hours**

Detective Davis, FBI Agent Dave Street and I went to several different churches located on Bahia Vista Road and also a church located on Webber Street just east of the railroad tracks and conducted searches in the wooded areas behind the churches and along the property lines for the victim to no avail.

**2-6-04 – 1000 hours**

Detective Peters and I followed up on a lead (TP488). This lead was called in by a subject who stated that he believed he observed the suspect's vehicle in this investigation parked on the side of a street near a pond in Manatee County. Detective Peters and I contacted the caller, confirmed the exact location, and responded to the area. Detectives Peters and I searched the perimeter of the pond in Manatee County for any possible items relating to this investigation to no avail. The lead sheet was completed with the disposition of the lead and turned back into FBI Analysts.

**2-6-04 – 1300 hours**

I placed the audio taped and videotaped interview of Mr. Dority, conducted by the Kissimmee Police Department and the audio taped interview from Ms. Luna, into Property as evidence. (See attached property receipts for further details).

**2-6-04 – 1400 hours**

Special Agent Scanlon with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and I were conducting a follow up investigation on a lead, when we made contact with Isidro Hernandez, Hispanic male, 7-28-67. We made contact with him at his place of employment, which is Designer Marble & Granite located at 1227 Mango Avenue, Sarasota, Florida. After contacting Mr. Hernandez and informing him of the purpose of wanting to interview him, Mr. Hernandez agreed to speak with us and provided a taped statement. Mr. Hernandez stated that he has known Joseph Smith for approximately four years and that Smith was going to be working on his truck Sunday at approximately 1230 hours. Hernandez stated that he showed up at Smith's residence, which is the residence located on Ingot Place, and made contact with Joseph's wife who informed him that Joseph was not at the residence and did not know when he would be back. Hernandez stated that he went home and did not think anything else about the incident. Hernandez was asked during the interview if he had seen the picture from the surveillance video that was being shown on the news. Hernandez stated that he had seen it and when he first observed the male subject that was caught on surveillance

video, he did not recognize him. However once Joseph Smith's name was released and posted on the news, and he was able to see the male subject on the surveillance video again, he immediately identified him as Joseph Smith. The entire interview with Hernandez was audio taped. (See audio tape for complete details of the interview).

**2-9-04 – 1600 hours**

I placed the audio taped interview of Mr. Hernandez and composite sketch completed by Mr. Dority, with the assistance from the Kissimmee Police Department, into Property as evidence in this case. (See property receipt for further details).

This concludes my involvement in this investigation.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 02/24/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 to date

**Det.:** T. Davis #873

**Supv.:** Sgt. P. Richard #488

tad

Copy to:

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**SYNOPSIS**

**2/2/04 0800 Hours**

I was advised that Det. Hallisey and Det. Graham were investigating the apparent disappearance of an 11-year-old child, Carlie Brucia. Det. Hallisey advised me about the case.

**02/02/04 1230 Hours**

Det. Hallisey recovered a security tape from Evie's Car Wash on Bee Ridge Rd. showing Carlie Brucia being abducted by an unknown W/M, with dark hair, wearing a dark colored mechanic's shirt and pants.

I interviewed Steven Kansler, Carlie's stepfather. He reported that on 2/1/04 at approximately 1815 hours he was visiting Carlie's mother, Susan Schorpen at 3630 McIntosh Rd. Mr. Kansler advised that he and Ms. Schorpen were currently estranged. Mr. Kansler stated that about that time Ms. Schorpen received a phone call from the mother of one of Carlie's friend's. The mother advised Ms. Schorpen that Carlie was

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walking home from the friend's house at the corner of Lalani Blvd and Bee Ridge Rd. Ms. Schorpen asked Mr. Kansler to pick up Carlie. Mr. Kansler immediately left the house and went to the residence, 3825 Lalani Bl. Mr. Kansler could not find Carlie. He did a number of trips back and forth along different possible routes but could not find Carlie. He phoned Ms. Schorpen and told her he could not find Carlie. Together Ms. Schorpen and he then traveled different routes attempting to find Carlie.

Mr. Kansler stated that while he was looking for Carlie he noticed a tow truck driving around the same area. He thought the truck suspicious. The family reported Carlie missing around 1936 hours and deputies responded. When Mr. Kansler observed the tow truck parked at 3825 Lalani he reported his suspicions to responding deputies.

See the videotape of Mr. Kansler's interview for his complete statement.

**02/02/04 1500 Hours**

Det. Hallisey and I interviewed the tow truck driver, Ronald Choquette. He reports that he lives at 3825 Lalani Bl with Carlie's friend's, Danielle Lothridge's mother, Connie Arnold. Carlie, Danielle, and another friend, Michelle Jones, spent the night at 3825 Lalani Bl. Mr. Choquette stated he stayed home with the girls while Ms. Arnold went to spend the evening with Ms. Schorpen at 3630 McIntosh. Mr. Choquette stated he was working at the time of the abduction and provided names of co-workers that could verify his actions.

Mr. Choquette consented to a search of his belongings at 3825 Lalani and a search of his tow truck at Upman's Towing at 3107 Clark Rd. While there I contacted a co-worker of Mr. Choquette's, Donald Gualandri. Mr. Gualandri verified Mr. Choquette's alibi for 2/1/04.

**2/3/04 0800 hours**

I attended an organizational meeting regarding the abduction of Carlie.

**02/03/04 0900 Hours**

I was assigned to contact Mark Cocco as he matched the physical appearance of the suspect in the video. I contacted Mr. Cocco at his place of employment, BFI on North Orange Ave. Mr. Cocco reported he was watching the Super Bowl at the time of the abduction with family members and a friend, Robert Legget.

I contacted Robert Legget at his place of employment, Baum Tools, and he verified Mr. Cocco's alibi for his actions on 2/1/04.



2/3/04 1115hours

I responded to the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway and Monica Parkway to contact Detectives Riva and Hilton. They advised me that co-workers of a subject named Joseph Smith had identified him as the person in the videotape. The co-workers advised that Monday morning, 2/2/04, Smith showed up at work but appeared extremely distracted and was unable to complete any work assignment. Smith went home early. Today Smith's boss picked him up at the residence but Smith stated that he was going to stay home and not work.

Smith's unusual behavior raised his coworkers' suspicions and when they viewed the videotape they realized Smith's involvement in Carlie abduction.

Det. Riva, Det. Hilton, and I approached the residence. As we did so, Det. Hilton observed a W/M with tattooed arms in the fenced in area of the backyard walk towards the rear of house and out of view. I knocked on the screen door but received no response. I rang the doorbell but received no response. I then opened the screen door and knocked on the residence door but still received no response. Det. Hilton contacted some neighbors who had been sitting on their front porch. They advised that they had been sitting there for some time watching the activities of the neighborhood. They advised that while they were sitting there a vehicle pulled up with a white female and a white male exited the house. The two subjects talked, the white female drove away and the white male entered the house. The neighbors were positive that the male subject was still in the residence.

I contacted Sgt. Richard and requested he contact Probation and Parole and ascertain whether or not Joseph Smith was on supervision. I also requested that if Smith was on Probation to have his caseworkers respond to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway.

Approximately 1200 hours Joe Smith's sister, Rena D. Grudzina, arrived with her daughter. Ms. Grudzina advised that Smith had called her approximately an hour earlier and asked her to come over. Rena knocked on the door, called his name, and then opened the door and entered the residence. A short time later she exited the house, advised Smith was inside and would be out in a moment.

Smith exited the house wearing a long sleeve green sweatshirt, black jeans, and white tennis shoes. I asked him why he had not come to the door and he replied that he had been sleeping. I identified myself and advised him that I needed to talk to him. He agreed to talk to me. He stated that on Sunday morning, 2/2/04, he and his roommates/landlords, Jeffrey and Naomi Pincus, went to Copher's U-Pull It to get some vehicle parts. Smith stated that they were at the junkyard for approximately 2-3 hours.

and returned home around 1300 or 1400 hours. Smith stated that around 1500 hours he visited his wife's, Luze Smith, residence at 2738 Ingot Pl and stayed there for approximately 30 minutes. He then returned to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy. He stayed there until around 1800 hours when he drove out to visit his brother, John Smith. I asked Joe where John lived and he replied Golf Club Road. I asked him where that was and he replied that it was out off Fruitville Rd near Tatum Golf Club. Joe stated that he stayed at his brother's for approximately 30 minutes. According to Joe they talked about some of their mutual addiction problems and some of the stressors going on in their lives. Joe then drove back to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy. He stayed there in his room watching television until around 1930 hours when he asked to borrow Pincus' 1992 yellow station wagon and drove out to Marina Jacks to look at the water. He returned to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy around 0000 hours on 2/2/04. Joe stated that he drove his own vehicle, 1988 brown Lincoln, on the two trips he made to his wife's and his brother's residences. I asked him what he did for a living and he replied that he was a mechanic. I asked him to describe his normal work uniform to which he stated he usually wore a dark colored gray uniform with a single nameplate 'Joe' on his right chest. I asked him to show me his tattoos, which he did by pulling up his sleeves. I noticed a number of small nicks and lacerations on his hands. Smith did not ask why I was questioning him until he showed me his tattoos. I then advised him that I was a homicide detective and I was looking for an abducted child. He immediately stated he did not know anything about an abduction. I then showed him a still picture of the abduction. He stated "that sure does look like me but that's not me". He then asked where the picture had been taken and I advised him that it was taken from a security camera at the scene. Smith reiterated that he had nothing to do with the abduction. I then asked him for his cooperation in the investigation and requested consent to search his room and his vehicle. He consented and signed a waiver. Smith walked me into his room and showed me two dark colored uniform shirts with a single nameplate on the right chest. He also showed me a pair of white tennis shoes. As he was showing me his room detectives Riva and Hilton searched his vehicle. Det. Riva discovered drug paraphernalia in the vehicle.

Probation Officers arrived and violated Smith's probation.

At approximately 1245 hours Naomi Pincus arrived home. I introduced myself and requested to speak to her regarding Smith's activities on 2/1/04. Mrs. Pincus stated that following a lengthy trip to Copher's U-Pull It, she, her husband, and Smith arrived back at the house around 1500 hours. She recalled that her daughter came to the home and dropped off her child for Mrs. Pincus to baby-sit. Mrs. Pincus believed that Joe was in his room sleeping. Mrs. Pincus then stated that sometime during the Super Bowl, she believed half time show, Luze Smith, Smith's estranged wife, called the residence and asked to speak with Smith. Mrs. Pincus stated that she yelled for Smith to pick-up the phone and heard him reply that he would call her, Luze, back. Mrs.

Pincus stated that she believed that Smith was in the house from 1500 hours until at least the phone call during the half-time show.

Given Mrs. Pincus' statements I believed that Smith was at 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy during the known time of the abduction. I left 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy at approximately 1255 hours.

**02/03/04 1630 Hours**

I was assigned lead TP87 which advised William L. Lamb was a potential suspect. I contacted William L. Lamb and discounted him as a suspect due to his long hair and full beard.

**02/03/04 1830 Hours**

I was notified that the Pincus' had driven their 1992 station wagon to the Sheriff's Office and that Jeffrey Pincus needed to talk to me about Smith's activities.

I contacted Jeffrey Pincus who advised that upon his return from work on this date he learned of Naomi's conversation with me. Jeffrey Pincus apologized for his wife's recollection of events on 2/1/04 but that what she had originally told me was completely inaccurate. Jeffrey Pincus stated that one of the reasons she was inaccurate was because he had discreetly given the station wagon to Smith at 1505 hours on 2/1/04 and Smith had not returned to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy until 0730 hours on 2/2/04. I advised both Jeffrey and Naomi that I would need to interview them again, on videotape.

I re-interviewed Naomi. She apologized for her original statement. She had been taken off-guard when she found law enforcement in her home. When I began asking her questions she had not been able to think clearly and realized now that her statement was inaccurate. Naomi stated that she remembered receiving phone calls from Luze Smith while she was babysitting her grandbaby. While babysitting she concentrates on the child and as such lost track of time and other activities. Naomi stated that when she babysat she usually spends most of the time isolated in a rear playroom with the child. I asked her again specifically about the phone call she received during the half-time show. Naomi stated that she is now certain that her re-collection of time is not accurate and that her re-collection of whether Smith responded to her or not was also not clear in her mind. She stated that she did not know that Smith had borrowed the station wagon because her husband had not told her. The reason that he had not told her was that it was a contentious part of their relationship because Jeffrey does not loan the vehicle to their own children. She also stated that following the trip to Copher's U-Pull It she gave \$50.00 to Smith for fixing her daughter's vehicle. Naomi stated that it was upon Jeffrey's return from work that she realized the inaccuracies of her statements. Jeffrey reminded her of the days activities and together they realized that Smith had not been

home during the abduction, had been in possession of their vehicle, had returned the vehicle in a different state than when he borrowed it, and that upon viewing the video was certain that Smith was the subject abducting Carlie Brucia. See her included videotaped interview for her complete statement.

I interviewed Jeffrey Pincus. He stated that he had been a friend of Smith's for a number of years. Following some marital and lifestyle problems Smith had asked to rent a room in the Pincus house. Mr. Pincus advised that the marital problems were solely a result of Smith's continued drug use. Mr. Pincus advised that Luze Smith had kicked Joe out of the house after repeated attempts to get him sober. Mr. Pincus stated that on Saturday Smith began to complain of vehicle troubles. Realizing, through past experience, that Smith would probably ask to borrow his vehicle, Mr. Pincus reset the trip odometer on Saturday to zero. Mr. Smith borrowed the vehicle Saturday night to visit his children on Ingot Pl and a short time later Smith returned with the vehicle. On Sunday morning around 1100 hours, Jeffrey, Naomi, and Smith traveled to Copher's U-Pull It to get some vehicle parts. They returned to 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy and Smith took the vehicle to his garage to fix Naomi's daughter's vehicle. Smith returned a short time later. Jeffrey remembered a series of three phone calls from Luze Smith. Jeffrey stated that the phone calls seemed to bother Smith and that following the last one at approximately 1455 hours Smith asked to borrow the vehicle again. Jeffrey took note of the time, 1505 hours, due to Smith's history of failing to return in a timely fashion. Jeffrey told Smith he had until 1530 hours to return the vehicle. Smith left, wearing a dark gray colored uniform with a nameplate 'Joe' on the right chest, dark gray colored uniform pants, and white tennis shoes. Jeffrey did not see the vehicle or Smith until the following morning, 2/2/04, at approximately 0730 hours when they met at the door as Jeffrey left for work. Smith appeared to be freshly showered and was wearing a green long sleeve sweatshirt and black jeans. Jeffrey confronted him about where he had been and how he had showered and Smith told him that he had stayed at Luze Smith's and cleaned up. Jeffrey then checked the mileage on the vehicle and found that it had been driven 382 miles since he reset the odometer on Saturday morning. Jeffrey stated that the vehicle was dirty, that there were items out of place inside, a rear seat had been laid down, and it appeared that someone else had been in the vehicle as items appeared to have been pushed aside in the front seat. Jeffrey stated he believed he knew where Smith's drug supplier lived and that her name was 'Christine.' Smith told Jeffrey that he often did mechanical work on Christine's vehicles in exchange for drugs.

Jeffrey and I then traveled to the area of Lalani and Bee Ridge Rd. He pointed out a residence, 3556 Lalani, that he believed to be where Smith admitted purchasing heroin from Christine.

See the included videotape for Jeffrey's complete statement.

**02/03/04 2200 Hours**

I returned to 3556 Lalani and interviewed the residents, John Belles and James Duncan. They denied knowing Joseph Smith. They denied knowing Christine but did have a friend, Chrissy, who was a dancer at Cheetah's. Both subjects denied that Chrissy sold drugs. Both subjects denied Smith had ever been there or bought heroin or cocaine from that residence. Both subjects admitted recreational use of marijuana but denied ever selling marijuana.

**02/03/04 2330 Hours**

I interviewed Chrissy, Christina L. Hart, at Cheetah's. She denied knowing Joseph Smith. She denied ever selling any drugs to Smith. She stated that she had only been to 3556 Lalani on two occasions.

**02/03/04 0000 Hours**

I was advised that Rena Grudzina, Joseph Smith's sister, reported that Christine Montalvo had contacted her regarding Smith's arrest.

**2/4/04 0030 Hours**

Sgt. Stroud interviewed Montalvo at her residence, 3664 Stokes Dr.

**02/04/04 0030 Hours**

I re-interviewed Smith following his arrest for Violation of Probation. Post-Miranda, Smith requested to speak to his attorney. He became emotionally upset and began to cry. He requested to speak to his family. He never denied his involvement in this investigation. The interview was halted due to invocation.

**02/04/04 0900 Hours**

I interviewed Christine Montalvo at NCIB. She stated that she used Smith as her mechanic. On 2/1/04 Smith visited her residence around 1530 hours and stayed for approximately an hour to discuss working around her home and some mechanic work that her son wanted done on his vehicle. At the time of that visit he was driving a light colored station wagon. She stated that at approximately 2000 hours, while at work with her son Alibizu Moctezu at Albrittons Fruit Shippers, her 11 year old daughter called her and told her that Smith was at the residence again waiting for her. The daughter refused to allow Smith inside and when Montalvo and her son Albizu Moctezu arrived



home at 2015 hours Smith was waiting for her in the same vehicle. I advised her that she had been identified as Smith's drug supplier. She admitted Smith had asked her in the past about getting drugs for him but she denied they had any type of drug conversation on 2/1/04. Montalvo denied ever selling any drugs to Smith because she knew of his past drug problems. She stated that the reason Smith had asked her in the past was because she used to have multiple drug connections from Manatee County but no longer used drugs herself. I confronted her about the fact that I was investigating Carlie's disappearance and she was now an integral part of that investigation. As such, her honesty and forthrightness was paramount and any deviation from such would constitute a criminal act. She denied being involved with Smith in any type of drug activity.

**02/04/04 1100 Hours**

I interviewed Moctezu at NCIB. He stated that he and Smith were friends and they often got together to work on Moctezu's vehicle. He corroborated his mother's statement about arriving home around 2015 hours to find Smith waiting for them in the light colored vehicle. He was not able to remember what clothes Smith was wearing. I confronted him about Smith's drug activity, which his mother had been identified as Smith's supplier, and that 3664 Stokes Dr was where Smith went to purchase his drugs. Moctezu denied any drug activity with Smith. I confronted him about the fact that I was investigating Carlie's disappearance and he was now an integral part of that investigation. As such, his honesty and forthrightness was paramount and any deviation from such could constitute a criminal act. Moctezu then admitted that he may have given some marijuana to Smith in the past but denied ever selling it to him. Moctezu denied selling drugs and denied that his residence would be a place that someone would go to get drugs.

**02/04/04 2000 Hours**

I applied for and was granted a search warrant for Joseph Smith's room in the Pincus' residence. The Pincus' were present and consented to have the rest of the residence searched.

Seven gray colored uniform shirts, six of which had a singular nameplate 'Joe,' three similarly colored uniform pants, one pair of white tennis shoes, and a carpet sample were seized from the room. Nothing of evidentiary value was discovered or seized from the remaining part of the residence.



4/5/04

At approximately 1000 hours Capt. Bell, SA Martinez, and I stood by while Joseph Smith had a private, face to face meeting with his brother, John Smith and his mother, Patricia Davis. This meeting had been arranged through the Public Defenders Office.

John Smith advised me that Joseph Smith had not confessed nor had he told him anything of any evidentiary value.

Search options regarding finding the body were discussed. The time line of Smith's activities was determined with his statements, the Pincus' statements, the time stamped camera scenes, and the statements of Montalvo and Moctezu. Searches of areas that Smith had access to were determined to be a search priority. Joseph Smith's friend, Joseph DeGregorio, had a number of pieces of property, which were accessible by Smith.

The FBI contacted Mr. DeGregorio who consented to having his properties searched. Mr. DeGregorio contacted FBI Special Agent Dave Couvertier and spoke privately regarding this incident. Mr. DeGregorio described himself as a father figure to Joseph and John Smith. Mr. DeGregorio advised that Joseph Smith had confessed to John Smith during the morning face to face meeting. Mr. DeGregorio was expecting a phone call from John Smith about further statements that Joseph Smith was making. Mr. DeGregorio stated that Joseph Smith had confessed to John that Carlie was dead and was near a church. Mr. DeGregorio advised SA Couvertier that he would contact him if he heard from John Smith.

A cursory search of some churches near to Evie's Car Wash was completed with negative results.

At approximately 2055 hours FBI SA David Street received a call from John Smith. John Smith told SA Street to come pick him up. SA Street, SA Martinez, and I then responded to John Smith's residence. Upon answering the door and inviting us into the residence John Smith stated "We have to wait for my mother, she wants to come with us". While waiting John Smith received a number of calls on his cell-phone. John Smith received one call in our presence to which he angrily questioned the caller "Why are you calling me here?" John Smith then walked outside the residence to prevent us from listening to his conversation.

We waited at the residence until Patricia Davis arrived. John Smith then asked "how we gonna do this?" I stated that we would use SA Martinez's vehicle as it was the biggest and we could travel as a group together. Mrs. Davis then insisted that she accompany us. There was no discussion about the purpose of the trip.

John Smith directed SA Martinez back to Bee Ridge Rd, west to Cattlemen Rd, east on Proctor, over I-75, and then left onto the parking lot of the first church on Proctor, Central Church of Christ, 6221 Proctor Rd. I asked John Smith if he was positive that this was where Carlie's body would be found. John Smith stated that he was positive it was what Joe Smith had described to him.

I exited the vehicle and advised John Smith and Patricia Davis that we would not leave the parking lot nor look for the body until Forensic Techs had the opportunity to arrive and access the proper procedure for doing so.

I contacted Capt. Bell regarding the location.

As we waited for other responding units John Smith received at least two calls from Joseph Smith. During these conversations it was apparent that Joseph Smith advised John Smith to look for the first church on Proctor, that there was a bus on the side of the church, and that there was some sort of concrete outbuilding. Joseph became upset when John advised him that Patricia was present. John advised Joseph that she had insisted upon being present. Joseph told John that Carlie was about 100 feet from the concrete building. John asked Joseph "did you just choke her too hard?" to which Joseph apparently answered in the affirmative. John reported that Joseph told him he had choked Carlie during rough sex. John asked Joseph if he tied Carlie up. John reported that Joseph told him the body was not tied up. John asked Joseph if he had ejaculated. John reported that Joseph told him he had ejaculated on her and in her. Joseph's repeated calls to John upset him. John demanded Patricia to get on the phone and tell Joseph to stop calling because it was costing John money.

Upon arrival of Sgt. Richard and Sgt. Stroud, John Smith and Patricia Davis were taken to NCIB to be interviewed.

#### 02/05/04 2300 Hours

I interviewed Patricia Davis. She stated that during the morning face to face meeting Joseph had confessed that he had killed Carlie. Mrs. Davis stated that at the time Joseph reported he was too high on drugs to remember exactly where Carlie's body was located. Mrs. Davis stated that during the day she and John Smith drove around several churches on Proctor Rd looking for the body. Mrs. Davis stated she never exited the vehicle while on this search nor did she remember John exiting the vehicle. After they did not find a body Mrs. Davis drove to her house in North Port. Mrs. Davis stated that Joseph continued to call John throughout the day. Around 2000 hours John called her and told her that Joseph had told him where Carlie's body had been dumped. She then drove back to Sarasota and met us at John's residence.

SA Martinez and Street interviewed John Smith.

**2/6/04 1300 Hours**

I contacted the Probation Office and requested their assistance in talking to Montalvo again at her residence. SA Street and I, along with Lawrence Carmen of Probation, contacted Montalvo at 3664 Stokes Dr. As a result of a consensual search of her residence she was arrested for violation of probation for possession of marijuana. She reiterated that Smith showed up at her house on 2/1/04 at approximately 1545 hours until 1615 hours and then again around 1945 hours. She denied any involvement in supplying Smith with drugs.

**2/12/04 0900 hours**

SA Martinez and I contacted Linda S. Vogel-Becher at her residence at 2694 15<sup>th</sup> St. She advised that she had driven her daughter over to Joe Smith's work shop on 12<sup>th</sup> Street around 1300 hours on 2/2/04. Ms. Vogel-Becher stated that Joseph had never been to the house and had not seen him in person except for that day.

SA Martinez and I contacted Jeff and Naomi Pincus. They advised they intended to clean out the room that Smith rented from them. Mr. Pincus advised that he had discovered a pair of brass knuckles under Smith's bed and what appeared to be a used condom inside a magazine he found in a piece of furniture. I advised them that they may need to serve Smith with eviction papers.

**02/12/04 1030 hours**

SA Martinez and I contacted Erin M. Vogel at the Cabana Inn. She stated that she had met Smith while both were in First Step Rehabilitation together. She and Smith remained friends once they both got out of rehab and she would visit him at the shop on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Vogel stated that Smith tried to get intimate with her but she refused his advances. Ms. Vogel stated that she needed some gas money on 2/2/04 so had her mother drive her to the 12<sup>th</sup> Street shop around 1300 hours. She met Joseph there and talked to him for awhile. She stated that she had not seen him prior for about two weeks. She could provide no other information regarding Joseph's actions around 2/1/04.

**2/17/04**

The Pincus' contacted me and stated that it was going to be a financial hardship for them to have eviction papers served on Smith. Naomi Pincus advised she was going to clean out the room on 2/18/04.

**2/18/04 1200 Hours**

I collected a set of brass knuckles, a paper receipt with the name 'Christine' and '377-4285' written on it, and what appeared to be a used condom. These articles were submitted to Property.

**2/24/04**

This concludes my involvement in this case to date.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie J. Brucla  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
SSN: [REDACTED]

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Arrest - E

**DATE TYPED:** 03/03/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/01/04 - 03/02/04

**DET:** C. Hallisey # 747  
tad  
**COPY TO:**  
**RELATED CASE(S):** None

**SUPV:** Sgt. P. Richard # 488

**INDEX**

**DATE/TIME OF OFFENSE:**

02/01/04, 1821 hours

**LOCATION OF OFFENSE:**

4715 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota

**COMPLAINANT:**

Susan Schorpen  
W/F 04/27/69  
5'4" 150 lbs. Bro/Bro  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Fl.  
(941) 377-4482  
-Mother of Victim

**WITNESS/OTHER:**

See Attached Witness List

**SUSPECT:**

Joseph P. Smith  
W/M, 03/17/66  
LKA: 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Pkwy.  
Sarasota, FL.  
No Phone

**VEHICLE USED IN CRIME:**

1992 Buick Century Station Wagon (yellow)  
VIN: 1G4AH8N3N6447424

**EVIDENCE STATUS:**

Refer to Individual Reports

**STOLEN/DAMAGED PROPERTY:**

N/A

**RECOVERED PROPERTY:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS TO REPORT:**

- Bill of Sale & Certificate of Title  
(1992 Buick Century Station Wagon)

**DRUG RELATED:**

No



### SYNOPSIS

On January 31, 2004, 11 year-old Carlie Brucia spent the night with a friend named Danielle, 3825 Lalani Blvd. Sarasota. On the following day, Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>, Carlie told Danielle that she wanted to walk home and left shortly after 1800 hours. Connie, Danielle's mother, saw Carlie outside and asked her where she was going. Carlie replied her mother had agreed to let her walk home. (Carlie's home was approximately one mile from Danielle's home.) Connie called Carlie's mother Susan Schorpen to confirm Carlie's story. Susan said she had not agreed to this and told Connie she would send Carlie's stepfather, Steve Kansler, to pick her up – Carlie was never found.

Steve, along with friends and family, searched for Carlie for over an hour before calling the Sheriff's Office at 1936 hours to report her missing. Deputies responded and conducted a thorough search for Carlie; which included a neighborhood canvas, K9 searches, and interviews with Carlie's friends. Through their investigative efforts, deputies learned Carlie was complaining about her home-life and suggested to her friends that she did not want to stay at her home. This information created a well-founded belief that Carlie was likely a runaway, rather than the victim of a criminal act.

Deputies called off the nearly six hour search only after all known leads as to Carlie's potential whereabouts were exhausted. On the following morning February 2<sup>nd</sup>, this case was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Bureau for further investigation. Detectives spoke to Susan Schorpen and learned Carlie was still missing, and she had not shown-up at school. Detectives then attempted to retrace Carlie's path from Danielle's; thus, Sarasota K9 Search and Rescue Team bloodhounds were called upon for assistance.

Starting from Danielle's home, the bloodhounds tracked west along Bee Ridge Road to the rear of Evie's Car Wash and Golf Range (4715 Bee Ridge Rd.). There, Mike Evanoff, the owner of the complex, approached detectives. Evanoff offered to review his video surveillance system for Carlie. At approximately 1230 hours, Evanoff notified detectives that he believed Carlie was depicted on the surveillance video. Detectives returned to the car wash and observed the video.

As depicted, at 1821 hours on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Carlie was observed walking west along the rear of the car wash when a man approached her. The subject was a white male, 5'6-5'8/ medium build, dark hair, tattoos on both forearms, wearing a dark colored shirt (commonly worn by mechanics), dark pants and white sneakers. It was apparent from the video that Carlie did not recognize this subject and she attempted to pass by him when he stopped her. This subject appeared to say something to Carlie, and then he grabbed her by the wrist and forcibly walked her out of camera view. This video was

displayed before Carlie's mother and stepfather, both identified Carlie in the video and neither of who was able to identify the male subject.

This video was released to the media and the "Amber Alert" system was activated. Pursuantly, Ed Dinyes called the tip-line and identified the unknown male as a business associate named Joseph Smith. Dinyes made this identification based upon the height, build, hair color, hairstyle, tattoos, walking gait and clothing of the subject depicted in the video.

On February 3, 2004, detectives attempted to contact Joseph Smith at a house wherein he rented a room from Naomi and Jeffrey Pincus (3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway). As deputies approached, a subject believed to be Smith was seen entering the rear of the home. Detectives attempted to raise Smith at the front door but he refused to answer. Smith's sister Rena Grudzina arrived while detectives were still at the home and she was able to get Smith to come outside. Additionally, Smith's probation officer was summoned to the residence to assist detectives.

Detectives interviewed Joseph Smith who provided a statement as to his activities on February 1, 2004. During this statement, Joseph Smith said he spent time with his estranged wife at her home and then later with his brother John Smith at his home. Smith said he then borrowed the 1992 Buick station wagon (yellow), belonging to his landlord Jeffrey Pincus, and claimed he drove to Marina Jack around 1700 hours. Smith ultimately denied being in the area of the abduction. Smith also gave detectives permission to search his room and vehicle during the interview. Detectives did find similar clothing as depicted in the video, and drug paraphernalia. Since Smith's professed alibi was supported by his landlord Naomi Pincus, and the possession of the drug paraphernalia resulted in an arrest by his probation officer, Smith was no longer a focus of the investigation.

Later that same evening, Jeffrey Pincus came to the Sheriff's Office to explain his wife Naomi had been mistaken when she provided an alibi for Smith. Additionally, Jeffrey Pincus did confirm Smith had borrowed the car at 1505 hours on February 1<sup>st</sup>, but he said Smith failed to return the car in 30 minutes as agreed upon; rather he did not return the car until the following day at 0730 hours. Pincus allowed detectives to search his 1992 station wagon, and he pointed out items in the rear cargo area that had been obviously disturbed. Joseph Smith was attempted to be re-interviewed and post Miranda requested an attorney.

Further investigation revealed Joseph Smith used Pincus' car to drive to the home of Christine Montalvo on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Smith's suspected drug supplier. Montalvo reported Smith did come to her home (3664 Stokes Dr.) in Pincus' car at 1530 hours on the 1<sup>st</sup>, and he left at 1630 hours; placing Smith within two miles of the scene of the

abduction and less than two hours prior. Review of the Evie's Car Wash surveillance video revealed the same car (1992 Buick Century station wagon) driving through the parking lot at 1818 hours, approximately three minutes prior to the abduction.

On February 5, 2004, detectives learned Joseph Smith told his brother John Smith that he abducted, raped and murdered Carlie Brucia. Based upon specific information provided to John Smith by Joseph Smith, John Smith was able to lead detectives to the rear of Central Church of Christ (6221 Proctor Rd.) where the body of Carlie Brucia was found. An autopsy revealed Carlie was murdered through ligature strangulation, and preliminary forensic examination indicated she was the victim of a sexual battery.

On February 6, 2004, detectives charged Joseph Smith with the abduction and murder of Carlie Brucia. Subsequently, Smith was taken to the Manatee County Jail where his phone calls could be monitored. During a phone call between Smith and his mother Patricia Davis, Smith said, [REDACTED]

During another jail phone conversation between Joseph Smith and John Smith, John commented to Joe that it was [REDACTED]

During other conversations with John Smith, Joe denied knowing Carlie or her parents, and he denied others were involved in his actions. It should be noted that as of the preparation of this case synopsis Joseph Smith had not made a direct and detailed account of the entire event.

The latent and trace evidence search of the 1992 Buick station wagon produced a hair that had microscopic similarities to known hair samples of Carlie Brucia. A Mitochondria DNA comparison test was subsequently conducted, which revealed Carlie cannot be excluded as being the donor of this hair.

In summary, an analysis of Joseph Smith's past behaviors and criminal history provide for a reasonable hypothesis of Smith's motivation and behavior while committing the abduction, rape and murder of Carlie Brucia on February 1, 2004. Smith's actions indicate that he is an ambush style rapist, and his selection of Carlie Brucia was one of pure opportunity. Also, there is no evidence to suggest Joseph Smith selected Carlie Brucia due to her age, nor that he knew Carlie Brucia or her family prior to the attack. This investigation has proven unequivocally, Joseph Smith was solely responsible for

the abduction, rape and murder of Carlie Brucia and I recommend this case be closed by arrest of the offender.

### INVESTIGATION

#### 02/02/04 0820 hours

I was asked by Sgt. Richard to investigate a missing juvenile named Carlie Brucia. According to Sgt. Richard, she was last seen on 02/01/04, 1816 hours, at a friend's house. Det. Stephanie Graham responded in an on call capacity to the initial complaint on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

According to Det. Graham, Carlie Brucia spent the night at the home of a friend Danielle Lothridge (3825 Lalani Blvd.), along with another friend Michelle Jones, from Saturday night to Sunday. Carlie bickered much of Sunday with Michelle, and eventually decided to go home at 1800 hours - Carlie was not supposed to be picked up until 2030 hours. Det. Graham said, even though Carlie wanted to go home, she made several comments to the two girls that she did not like her home-life and she wanted to live some place else.

From the information Det. Graham gathered, Carlie was seen outside preparing to leave Danielle's house around 1800 hours. Danielle's mother Connie, saw Carlie outside and asked her what she was doing. Carlie reportedly replied to Connie that her mother was allowing her to walk home. Connie called Carlie's mother Susan and asked her if this was allowable. Susan reportedly said no, and said she was going to send her husband Steve to pick up Carlie. Steve did not find Carlie and, after a search of the area, the Sheriff's Office was notified. Refer to Det. Graham's supplement for additional details.

I asked Det. Graham to assist me with this investigation.

#### 02/02/04 0825 hours

I telephoned Susan Schorpen, Carlie's mother. I learned Carlie was still missing. I arranged to meet with Susan within the hour.

#### 02/02/04 0830 hours

I contacted Det. Exposito, the S.R.O. of McIntosh Middle School, Carlie's school. I inquired from him if he knew Carlie and if he could check her first period class when class began to see if she arrived. Det. Exposito said he was not familiar with Carlie but

**02/02/04 0915 hours**

I met with Susan Schorpen at her home. We discussed all possible options as to Carlie's whereabouts; it was apparent to me that all possible avenues to ascertain Carlie were pursued and effectively exhausted. Susan requested a media release be disseminated. I explained I would arrange for one after I heard from Det. Exposito and that I expected to hear from him shortly.

**02/02/04 0933 hours**

I spoke to Det. Exposito who advised Carlie did not show up for school, and based on his conversations with her friends he was unable to provide any further information as to Carlie's whereabouts. I asked him to continue questioning friends and classmates for information.

**02/02/04 0950 hours**

I contacted Communications to request Sarasota Search and Rescue K-9 unit to respond to 3825 Lalani, the last place that I could establish Carlie was seen. Det. Graham said all area hospitals were called with no record of Carlie.

**02/02/04 0957 hours**

Det. Graham and I responded to 3825 Lalani, the incident location. Det. Graham and I re-interviewed Danielle Lothridge and her mother Connie Arnold. Danielle stayed home from school because she was upset over Carlie's disappearance. Neither Danielle nor Connie was able to provide me with new information to locate Carlie. I believe both were being truthful.

According to Connie, she did not stay at the home with the three girls Saturday night. She said she stayed over at Susan Schorpen's home. Connie said her live-in boyfriend, Ron Choquette, supervised the girls. Connie and Ron had been dating for approximately two months; Ron was currently at work.

**02/02/04 1003 hours**

I received a telephone call from Pat Abrams of the Sarasota K-9 Search and Rescue. She explained she was arranging for bloodhounds (scent discriminating dog) to respond.



**02/02/04 1020 hours**

I contacted Judy Johnston and asked her to subpoena the telephone company to identify all calls, incoming and outgoing, from 3825 Lalani Blvd. through Saturday at midnight to Sunday at midnight.

- Utilizing a scent article belonging to Carlie (pillowcase) the search and rescue team began a track from the Lalani address. I was not present upon commencement of the search; refer to the report prepared by the team for specific times.

**02/02/04 1200 hours**

I received a call from the K9 search and rescue team asking for assistance near Evie's Golf Center and car wash, 4715 Bee Ridge Road. It was my understanding the bloodhound tracked to the area of the car wash; however, the dog seemed to lose the scent. I was asked if I could facilitate the temporary stoppage of activities at the Golf Center while the bloodhounds worked the driving range area. I did arrange for this stoppage and while standing at the rear of the car wash, I was approached by Mike Evanoff (owner/operator). Mike said he has the rear of the car wash under camera surveillance. He asked if he should view the surveillance video for yesterday's events -- I consented.

**02/02/04 1230 hours**

I received a call from Mike Evanoff, he asked me to return to the car wash to look at the video.

**02/02/04 1255 hours**

I viewed the video with Mike. He explained the video surveillance equipment is motion activated with cameras surrounding the car wash, with the exception of the west-side of the building. At 1221 hours the camera did activate and captured who I suspected was Carlie Brucia walking west along the rear of the car wash, at the same time a white male approached her. This unknown subject stopped Carlie and appeared to engage her in some way. The subject then grabbed her by the wrist and walked her out of view. It did not appear to me that Carlie knew the subject or went with him willingly.

At this time I called my supervisor Sgt. Richard and explained what was discovered, and that I felt Carlie was abducted. I explained the surveillance system was digital and I was in the process of collecting a CD copy. Upon receiving a copy, I immediately returned to North CIB where I arranged for Susan Schorpen and Steve Kansler to come in and view the video.



**02/02/04 1445 hours**

I showed the video containing Carlie to Susan and Steve. Susan positively identified the person in the video as her daughter, Carlie. She was, however, unable to identify the male depicted in the video. Steve also said the video was of Carlie and he did not know who the man was – he suspected the man was the live-in boyfriend of Connie Arnold.

**02/02/04 1500 hours**

Det. Reilly and Det. Cundiff located and brought Ronald Choquette, Connie's boyfriend, to north CIB. Det. Davis and I interviewed Choquette who said he went to work sometime Sunday morning around 0930, and claimed he remained at work, away from the home all day running tows until late Sunday afternoon. He claimed he did not leave work until after the Super Bowl had begun. He said he watched the first few minutes of the game with several co-workers, until approximately 1845 – 1900 hours. While on his way home, Ron said he got a phone call from Danielle, at approximately 1900 hours, who explained to him that Carlie was missing. He stated that he went from McIntosh to Bee Ridge Road, east on Bee Ridge and noticed Carlie's mother, Susan, near Evie's Golf Club. He stated that Susan was yelling for Carlie. Choquette stated he turned his vehicle around and went into Evie's parking lot, but did not make contact with Susan.

After showing the picture of Carlie, Choquette denied having any clothing similar to that depicted in the picture on the unknown subject and he denied the subject was him, although he conceded the picture was a likeness. Choquette provided the names, Chuck and Donnie, who were co-worker that could verify he was at work until approximately 1845. He also stated it was dark when he left, and then returned home. (Refer to the videotape of this interview for further details).

**02/02/04 1740 hours**

Detective Davis and I drove Ronald Choquette back to the Lalani residence where he gave permission for us to look through his belongings. I found no clothing similar to the clothing depicted in the video.

**02/02/04 1810 hours**

Detective Davis and I then drove Choquette Upman's Towing on Clark Road, his employer's business. Choquette gave consent to search his assigned tow vehicle, which was a red flat bed vehicle bearing Florida tag E8401A. We found no evidence of apparent value.

**02/02/04 1830 hours**

Detectives Davis, Graham, several Patrol deputies and K-9 Officers conducted another canvass of areas along Bee Ridge Road and through the neighborhood to the rear of Evie's Golf Course. This canvass revealed no other investigative leads.

- An "Amber Alert" was constructed and released.
- Media releases were constructed and disseminated.
- All law enforcement agencies with the ability to assist were notified and this case was disseminated.
- A detective was assigned to handle telephone calls throughout the night to screen all calls coming in related to this incident.

**2/3/04 0730 hours**

I spoke via telephone to Sergeant Davies with the Kissimmee Police Department. He advised he was investigating a suspicious complaint. According to Sgt. Davies, at approximately 6:40 a.m. the Kissimmee Police Dept. received a telephone call from a male caller who advised he observed a female in a struggle with another unidentified male. This caller advised this female broke away from the unidentified male and fled into a local neighborhood. The female was described as similar in description to that of Carrie.

Sergeant Davies informed me he had detectives, K-9, and patrol officers searching the area and conducting interviews to determine the validity and/or relevance of this complaint. Sergeant Davies' telephone number is 321-624-6114.

**02/03/04 0800 hours**

I attended an investigative team meeting involving various members of the Sheriff's Office C.I.B. The F.B.I. and F.D.L.E were present and became an integral part of this investigation.

**02/03/04 0815 hours**

I received a telephone call from Lieutenant Wall of the Sarasota Police Department. He advised that he was out with a white male who appeared to match the description of the subject depicted in the video. He asked for a photo of the subject depicted in the video be brought to him. Detective Riva was assigned this lead.

**02/03/04 0905 hours**

The decision was made to fly a scent article of Carlie from Sarasota to Kissimmee Police Department. Detective Lane was given responsibility of collecting this article and flying with a Sheriff's Office helicopter to Kissimmee.

**02/03/04 1035 hours**

I telephoned Hernando County Sheriff's Office regarding lead #69. I spoke with a detective who was unaware of information regarding this lead. He advised that he would make an inquiry and call me back.

I received a telephone call back from the Hernando County Sheriff's Office who explained CCSO Deputy Little was out with a vehicle, black Camero, FL tag F72TAU. This Deputy was concerned that the individual he was dealing with may match the description of the subject depicted in our video. The subject was determined not to be involved and released by the deputy. There was nothing else about that contact that suggested this person was involved.

**02/03/04 1044 hours**

I received a telephone call from Becky Fisher from the Sarasota Coastal Credit Union (907-4074). She explained that she lives off Belmont Av. and has regularly observed a white male walking in the area wearing a mechanics type shirt and similar shoes. She said the subject lives at 3711 Belmont Drive. I ran a check on the address and identified Christopher Callis as the subject who resides at this address. Several detectives I spoke to knew Callis and he does not have tattoos as depicted on the unknown subject in the video.

**02/03/04 1045 hours**

I received the Verizon telephone records from residence of Connie Arnold on Lalani Blvd. Calls of interest made from the residence (377-9021) to the number 729-2852 starting at 1557 hours and 57 seconds. This telephone call was made to 729-2852 number again at 1631, 1643, and 2000 hours on the same date. Additionally, several telephone calls received incoming from a cell phone, which was not identified with this search. Further investigation is needed to identify those numbers. Refer to Det. Pingel's call analysis report for details.

Sgt. Richard informed me Det. Hilton and Riva interviewed Ed Dinyes regarding a phoned in tip. [REDACTED] reported he believed the subject depicted in the video was a

business associate named Joseph Smith. Det. Davis was sent out to assist and interview Smith.

I obtained a photograph of Smith, which appeared consistent with the man depicted in the video. Additionally, Smith has tattoos on both arms according to arrest reports.

I later received information from Sgt. Richard regarding the status of Det. Davis' attempt to interview Smith. Apparently, Smith was seen entering the rear of the residence and was refusing to come to the door. Smith was apparently on probation, so Sgt. Richard asked me to contact his PO and have him/her respond. I called the probation office and arranged for Smith's PO to respond.

After Det. Davis returned to the office, he explained Smith had an alibi provided by his landlord Naomi Pincus; however, he was arrested for violation of probation by the probation officers.

**02/03/04 1300 hours**

I organized through the FBI to have agents assist Det. Lane in Kissimmee.

**02/03/04 1900 hours (approximately)**

I learned Jeffrey Pincus was being interviewed by Det. Davis and he was explaining his wife Naomi was mistaken in her earlier statement to Det. Davis. Accordingly, Pincus had informed Davis that Smith was in possession of their 1992 Buick Station Wagon and possessed the car from 1505 hours on Sunday until 0730 on Monday. This statement was in direct contradiction to Smith's earlier statement to Det. Davis. Refer to Det. Davis' report for a detailed account of Pincus' statement.

**02/04/04 0005 hours**

Det. Lane and I went to the Sarasota County Jail and returned to the Criminal Investigations Bureau with Joseph Smith. During my encounter with Smith at the jail we did not engage in any questioning. Smith did not inquire from me where he was going or what the nature of the contact was. Smith was walked over to CIB and placed in an interview room.

**02/04/04 0035 hours**

Det. Davis went in to the interview room to interview Joseph Smith.

**02/04/03 0037 hours**

Joseph Smith was read his Miranda Rights and he subsequently invoked.

**02/04/04 0049 hours**

Det. Davis went back into the room and asked Joseph Smith if he had an attorney that he wished we contact and Joseph Smith said he did not. Smith replied he just wanted to speak with his family. Det. Davis reiterated Smith's request for an attorney superceded any other request and would be honored. Det. Davis asked Smith if we could contact the Public Defender for him if he wished. Smith again stated that he wanted to speak with his family, but did agree to speak with a Public Defender.

Elliott Metcalf from the Public Defenders' office was called and Smith was allowed to speak with Metcalf over the telephone. Metcalf explained he would talk to Smith in the morning. This terminated the interview and Smith was returned to the jail.

**02/04/04 0215 hours**

I collected Joseph Smith's clothing. A Property receipt was completed and a copy was placed in his Inmate property. The clothes were individually bagged and submitted as evidence.

**02/04/04 1100 hours (approximately)**

I received information from Special Agent Dave Street that the original manufacture of the video surveillance equipment at Evie's Carwash went to the carwash and was able to retrieve a better quality copy of the surveillance video. He explained this video was copied onto a CD and was in the process of being prepared for shipment to the FBI laboratories in Quantico.

**02/04/04 1830 hours**

Major Gooding, Captain Bell and I made contact with the family to make formal notification of the identification of Joseph Smith as a suspect in this case. Subsequent to the notification a national broadcast was conducted disseminating this information along with fliers to the media.

**02/04/04 1935 hours**

Mike from Evie's Car Wash contacted me as I was leaving and informed me that he again reviewed the video from the date of the incident and believed he observed the suspect's vehicle driving through the parking lot.

I also viewed the video and indeed identified what looked like the Pincus' station wagon driving through the parking lot of Evie's complex at 1818 hours. The video was transferred to CD and secured.

**02/04/04 2122 hours**

I received information from Special Agent Dave Street. He informed me that Patricia Smith, Joseph Smith's mother, had contacted him and requested to speak with her son. I telephoned Patricia and she reiterated her request to contact her son. I explained to her the only thing I could do was ask the jail and determined if she could visit her son; however, I stressed I could not and would not talk to her about specific case details.

I subsequently contacted the jail and made arrangements for her to come in and speak with her son.

**02/04/04 2143 hours**

I called Patricia back and informed her of the arrangements. She indicated that she would be traveling from North Port and would meet her son John in Sarasota and then come to the jail.

The meeting was later cancelled.

**02/05/04 1340 hours**

I coordinated through Det. Hilton to request assistance of the FBI's Forensics team to execute a consent search of Saurus Auto, the business that Smith worked. Refer to Det. Hilton's supplemental report for further details.

**02/05/04 1430 hours**

I made contact with the City of Sarasota Public Works Department to instruct all garbage collection personnel to be aware of the case and potential evidence that might be contained in refuse containers. Additionally I made request to have collection of the area of 12<sup>th</sup> St. (location of Saurus Auto) stopped pending crime scene processing.



**02/05/04 1437 hours**

I coordinated efforts to supply a cadaver dog and sent discriminating dogs to search the areas of 12<sup>th</sup> Street, the location of Saurus Auto.

**02/05/04 1445 hours**

I received a telephone call from the director of the Public Works Department of the City of Sarasota. He advised that the refuse was collected today from the Saurus garage and was currently at a transfer station. I asked him to prevent the refuse from being taken from the transfer station to the county landfill, he advised he would. Additionally, the director said he believed the refuse could be identified at the transfer station and they had equipment at their disposal to assist us.

I called Tech. Andrus and asked her to conduct a search of this garbage, Det. Riva was sent out to oversee the search. I learned later the search was not feasible and was cancelled.

**02/05/04 1700 hours**

Csaba Bokors came to the Sheriff's Office front desk to provide information he believed was related to this case. Bokors explained he is the owner of Teddy Bear Montessori School and stated Joseph and Lucy Smith brought their children to the school at 1630 hours on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bokors did not know if this information would be helpful to this investigation.

**02/05/04 1845 hours**

I received information from the investigative team relating to Joseph DeGregorio and John Smith. According to members of the team, DeGregorio spoke with John Smith who explained Joseph Smith had confessed to the abduction, rape and murder of Carlie Brucia. He said this incident occurred behind a church in Sarasota and her body was still there.

**02/05/04 1900 hours**

I received information from Det. Hilton relating to the status of the search at Saurus Auto garage. He informed me the K-9 search rescue dog alerted for Carlie's scent within the garage, to the rear of the garage and out the back of the garage into the parking lot. A subsequent search produced negative results for any evidence.

**02/05/04 2015 hours**

I received a telephone call from Capt. Bell informing me that Joseph Smith had agreed to speak with detectives and potentially identify the location of the victim, I returned to the office.

**02/05/04 2230 hours (approximately)**

Maj. Gooding and I contacted the family at their residence on McIntosh. We made formal notification that we had sufficient information to believe that Carlie's body was found and that she was in fact deceased.

**02/06/04 0700 hours**

Sheriff Balkwill announced through a press conference, we had formally charged Joseph Smith with the abduction and murder of Carlie Brucia.

- I prepared an affidavit charging Joseph P. Smith for the abduction and murder of Carlie Brucia.

**02/06/04 1015 hours**

I called and had Carlie Brucia removed from NCIC/FCIC via Teletype Operator Pam.

**02/06/04 1330 hours**

I viewed Carlie's body at the Sarasota County Morgue. The body presented as partially clothed with a red top, and a sock present on the right foot. Carlie's body was in mild to moderate stages of decomposition. Moderate stages of decomposition were concentrated on the upper torso and head regions, with mild decomposition on the lower regions of the body. There was evidence of injury in the form of a ligature mark around her neck. Otherwise, absent the evidence of animal predation on the left foot and left hand, the body was free from any obvious signs of trauma. There were abrasions on the right side of the body consistent with drag marks.

Dr. Russell Vega was the Medical Examiner present. Investigators Kevin Brown and David Winterhalter were also present, as well as Tech. Lisa Lanham from the Sheriff's Office and two technicians from the FBI. Dr. Vega informed me there was evidence that several fingernails were ripped back. It was his preliminary observation that she was possibly wearing fake fingernails which were at some point torn off during this confrontation.

Due to postmortem decomposition artifacts, identification of Carlie can not be positively ascertained through a photograph comparison. Other identifying characteristics were present in the form of the shirt, in which the body was clad and overall general physical characteristics. A fingerprint, dental or DNA comparison should be performed for conclusive identification.

Dr. Vega suggested the ligature mark was consistent with having originating from a cord. Further analysis would be required for more specific detail.

Tech Lanham informed me that Carlie's body was recovered without the backpack, purse, shoes, pants, or underwear.

02/07/04 1240 hours

I received a telephone call from Brenda Viana, who reported a fingerprint comparison was conducted utilizing the rolled fingerprints of the body of Carlie Brucia to latent fingerprints recovered from items in Carlie's bedroom. This comparison revealed the fingerprints were the same.

02/07/04 1400 hours

I returned a telephone call to Susan (379-9992). She had left a message advising she had seen a vehicle similar to the Pincus' 1992 station wagon, at 1830 hours on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The vehicle turned from westbound McIntosh Lane onto southbound McIntosh Road. She advised the vehicle turned in front of her sharply, which required her to blow her horn and slam on the breaks. She described the driver to appear similar to Joseph Smith, but she was not positive.

02/09/04 1230 hours

I received a telephone call from Debra Riva of the State Attorney's Office. She informed me their office had received a telephone from a man named Patrick Sullivan. According to Riva, Sullivan reported he or his wife (unclear at this time) saw Smith with the victim in his vehicle on the day of the incident in Gulfport. The Sullivans did not want any media attention nor did they want the Sheriff's Office involved. Their attempt was to provide this information directly to the State Attorney's Office. The relevance of this information is uncertain at this time and requires further investigation. I asked Riva to attempt to set up a meeting between her office and the Sullivans so that this information could be further examined.

02/09/04 1500 hours

I spoke with Dr. Vega who confirmed the cause of death was asphyxiation due to ligature strangulation and the manner of death ruled homicide. Dr. Vega also reported the initial microscopic examination for semen yielded negative results. He suggested further DNA analysis or confirmatory tests to confirm this result.

02/10/04 0930 hours

I received a telephone call from SA J. Scanlan from FDLE. Scanlan informed me he had been notified that Joseph Smith had placed two telephone calls from the Manatee County Jail on 02/09/04. Scanlan stated the telephone calls took place between 1700 and 2000 hours. One telephone call was to his mother and the other to his brother John. I listened to the calls and heard the phone call between Smith and his mother Patricia Davis.

During another jail phone conversation between Joseph Smith and John Smith, John commented to Joe

02/10/04 0955 hours

I received a telephone call from SA Scanlan. He informed me that upon review of the telephone call between Joseph Smith and John Smith, Joseph Smith made several and direct comments relating to Carlie's murder. John Smith asked several direct questions and Joe Smith never denied that he was the perpetrator and made several excuses claiming that it was the drugs.

During other conversations with John Smith, Joe denied knowing Carlie or her parents, and he denied others were involved in his actions. Scanlan stated he would be able to record these telephone conversations on to a compact disc so that they could be transcribed and entered into evidence.

02/10/04

I received the 911 call CD copy as well as the chronology log from Consolidated Communications Center. The 911 call was transcribed and made a part of this case file.

**02/11/04 0900 hours**

Regarding the lead involving Patrick and Melinda Sullivan, I assigned this lead to SA David Sarney for further investigation.

**02/11/04 1150 hours**

Lt. Albritton informed me that he received a telephone call from a woman who advised that a station wagon appeared to be the same as the vehicle driven by Joseph Smith was in the parking lot of Twin Lakes Park on Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>. This woman described two occupants in the vehicle, one she believed to be Joseph Smith the other she felt was Carlie Brucia. Lt. Albritton informed me that he would assign Tech Lanham and Tech Sgt. Sullivan to go to the parking lot of Twin Lakes Park and look for potential evidence. Refer to Lt. Albritton's report for further details.

**02/11/04 1630 hours**

I received a call from SA Dave Street who informed me that a hair recovered from the rear of the station wagon showed microscopic similarities to a known hair of Carlie Brucia. This hair was submitted to the mitochondrial lab for DNA comparison.

**02/13/04**

I spoke to Dr. Vega who provided me with the toxicology results for Carlie. He said a .048 B.A.C. was detected. Dr. Vega associated this reading to decomposition.

**02/17/04 1330 hours**

I received a telephone call from SA Gigi Sass from the FBI. Agent Sass explained the laboratory in Quantico was reporting a brown Caucasian hair found on Carlie's body, as well as several burnt hairs believed belonging to the victim.

**02/25/04 1320 hours**

I spoke to Jennifer Luttmann from the FBI Laboratory. Luttmann said semen was identified on Carlie's shirt using ABA Semen Identifier Cards. This test is considered a confirmatory test; however, final results were subject to a peer review.

**03/02/04**

SA L. Billings and I met at the Pincus home to obtain buccal swabs. SA Billing collected the swabs and maintained them for transfer to the lab. I returned the bag of

fertilizer that was in the rear of the Pincus' car. Based upon the evidentiary value the Pincus' car held to this investigation, the Sheriff's Office compensated Jeffrey Pincus for surrendering his car.

This report is concluded at this time. Additional reports will be submitted as supplements.



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlle J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Fl. 34232

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Kidnapping/Murder  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 03/04/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/02/04 to date

**DET:** J. Exposito #1868  
Ear  
**COPY TO:** 

**SUPV:** Sgt. S. Andrews #586  


**RELATED CASE(S):** None

**INDEX**

**DATE/TIME OF OFFENSE:**

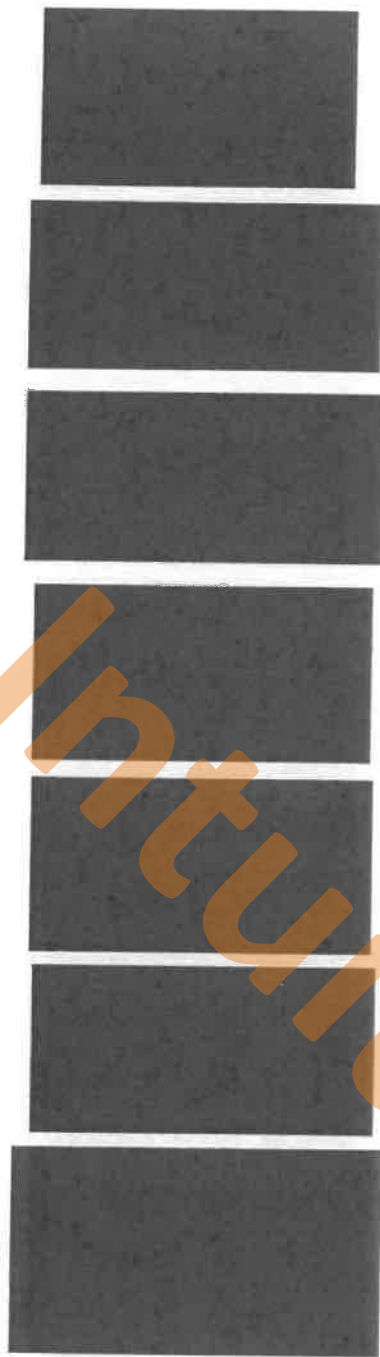
02/01/04 1821 hours

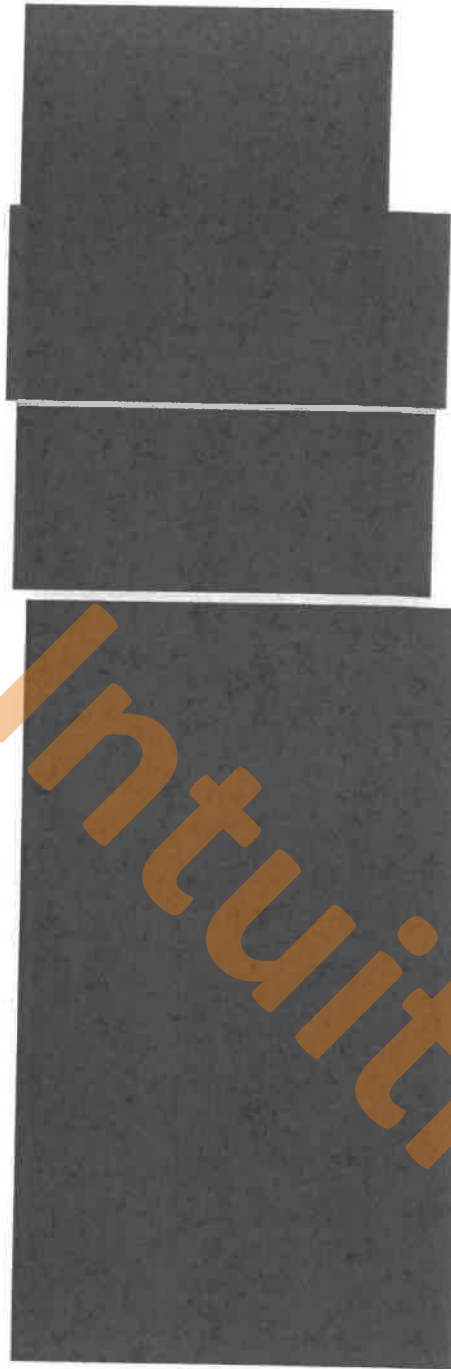
**LOCATION OF OFFENSE:**

4715 Bee Ridge Road  
Sarasota, Fl. 34232

**WITNESS/OTHER:**









Sleuth  
Intuition



**SUSPECT:**

Joseph P. Smith  
W/M 03/17/66  
3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway  
Sarasota, Fl.

**SYNOPSIS****02/02/04 0800 hours**

I received a call from Detective Hallisey who advised that a student from my school was reported to be missing. From 02/02/04 to 02/06/04 I received numerous leads on this case. These leads were provided by parents and students in the form of visits to my office or phone calls. These leads were documented on lead sheets and forward to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Criminal Investigations Bureau. These leads were then assigned numbers. The above listed witnesses have their corresponding lead numbers listed next to their information.



**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlle J. Brucia  
W/F 03/16/92  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, Florida  
(941) 377-4480  
Student: McIntosh Middle  
6th Grade  
SSN: [REDACTED]

**CASE #:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 04/21/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** to date

**Det.:** C. Hallisey #747  
tad  
**Copy to:**

**Supv.:** Sgt. P. Richard #488

**SYNOPSIS**

**04/19/04**

I received the autopsy report from the Medical Examiners Office. A copy of the report was sent to the State Attorney's Office for review.

This concludes my actions in this case at this time.

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia  
3630 McIntosh Rd.  
Sarasota, FL.

**CASE #:** 04-4947 9497

**OFFENSE:** Murder  
**STATUS:** Supplement

**DATE TYPED:** 03/15/04

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** 02/03/04 to date

**Det.: Lt. R. Albritton # 147** *Ri*  
Ear  
Copy to:

**SUPV: Captain J. Bell # 14** *JB*

**SUPPLEMENT**

**Monday, 2-2-04 2100 hours**

I became aware of the circumstances of this case while returning from vacation and traveling through the Naples, Florida area. Sgt. Richard called my cell phone which was answered by Capt. Bell who was traveling with me. Sgt. Richard provided an overview of the circumstances thus far. As our return to Sarasota would be about another two hours away and as Sgt. Richard and Major Gooding had supervision of the investigation handled, it was decided Capt. Bell and my active participation would begin with a briefing at 0715 hours in the morning.

**Wednesday, 2-4-04 1050 hours**

I responded to the Sarasota County Jail at the request of Joseph Smith's attorney, Public Defender's Office attorney, Adam Tebrugge. He requested assistance in arranging a private location to meet with Smith, stating Smith had privacy concerns discussing his case inside the jail facility. In an attempt to provide Smith every reasonable opportunity to be cooperative with information regarding this case, including the present location of Carlie Brucia, I did provide for a transfer of Joseph Smith from the jail to the Public Defender's Office. Utilizing Sgt. Richard as driver with his department assigned vehicle, Smith and Tebrugge were escorted by FBI Agent Leo Martinez and I, and driven to the Public Defender's Office. There, we were met by

Public Defender Elliott Metcalf. At 1110 hours Tebrugge and Metcalf met privately with Joseph Smith in the conference room of the Public Defender's Office. Agent Martinez and I remained outside the door of this room until the meeting was concluded at 1157 hours. Joseph Smith was then returned to the county jail facility at 1202 hours utilizing the same transportation and personnel as named above. Neither Smith, Tebrugge nor Metcalf provided any statements or information related to this investigation at that time.

**Wednesday, 2-4-04 1545 hours**

Sgt. Shella Sullivan, #344 and I responded to the Sarasota County Jail for the purpose of documenting the tattoos of Joseph Smith and his overall physical appearance. With the assistance of Lt. Lamb, Joseph Smith was moved to room 281B. There I explained to Smith that Sgt. Sullivan was going to be taking photographs to document his appearance. Knowing that Smith had previously invoked his constitutional right to remain silent, I informed Smith he would not be asked any questions of any nature and I had no intention of discussing this case with him.

During this process Sgt. Sullivan made note that Smith had a cut on one finger that was covered with a Band-Aid. She asked him to remove it, which he did. Additionally, Smith had the skin missing from the tip of his right index finger. While looking at some markings on Smith's arm, he asked Sgt. Sullivan if she was wondering what those were. Smith then volunteered that they were "track marks." While preparing to photograph a very large black and blue discolored bruise on the inside of Smith's right leg, in the area of the knee, Smith told Sgt. Sullivan he had that bruise for a couple of weeks now. However, I questioned the truth of Smith's statement, as the bruise did not show any of the associated yellow color that a healing bruise of two weeks should possess.

Smith requested I call his attorney for him as he had sent a message he wanted to see his attorney, but thus far this afternoon, he had not heard back from him. I assured Smith I would personally call Mr. Tebrugge as soon as I returned to my office and relay his message. Smith then asked for a new Band-Aid and one was obtained. Smith was turned back to Lt. Lamb's custody at 1610 hours.

I had noted on top of Smith's right hand there appeared to be marks or scratches that would be consistent with having been made by someone's fingernails. Tattoos noted on Smith included the following:

On upper right arm, "BROOKLYN"  
"NEVER SAY NEVER" with N.S.N. above a small heart with lines through it  
"MOM" inside a heart shape with a blue rose  
Inside right bicep is tattoo of a girl with red wings  
Mid back is tattoo of a nude winged female

Left inside forearm is tattoo of a pirate girl with a sword  
Tattoo of a warrior face with a ponytail  
Left bicep is tattoo of a skull with a candle inside it  
Nude girl tattoo and Black Panther head tattoo on left bicep  
"JOE" on upper left arm  
Girl wearing a bikini above Smith's left nipple  
Grim Reaper tattoo in middle of Smith's chest  
Skull wearing an Indian headdress above Smith's right nipple  
A snake, dagger and rose blended in same tattoo on lower left arm  
A heavy tattoo on lower right arm of a skull scene  
A rose tattoo on inside of lower left leg  
Popeye the Sailor tattoo  
A 5-inch long surgery scar is over Smith's spine at the lower back

Upon returning to my office minutes later, I called Attorney Tebrugge and advised him I had just been in contact with his client solely for the purpose of taking photographs. I informed Tebrugge that Smith was asking to see him.

**Wednesday, 2-4-04, 2000-2330 hours**

A search warrant obtained by Det. Davis was executed at the residence where Joseph Smith resided, 3452 24<sup>th</sup> Parkway, Sarasota. SSO Forensics unit was assisted by the FBI Forensics unit in the collection of evidence. During execution of the warrant Sgt. Sullivan, Sgt. Richard, Det. Lane and I remained outside the front of the residence for security as the area around the residence was designated as a crime scene to prevent unauthorized persons from entering.

**Thursday, 2-5-04, Approximately 2200 hours**

Capt. Bell informed me that Joseph Smith had spoken by phone from the jail with his brother regarding the location where Carlie Brucia's body could be located. Smith's brother advised it was going to be on Proctor Road, the first church after I-75. Capt. Bell requested that I respond and assume control of that location.

As I was preparing to leave CIB I was contacted by Smith's attorney, Adam Tebrugge. He inquired if law enforcement had recently learned certain information in this case. I informed Tebrugge that I was preparing to respond to the church on Proctor road past I-75. Tebrugge was satisfied and indicated then any obligation he had to law enforcement had been met and excused himself.

**Thursday, 2-5-04 2220 hours**

I arrived at the Central Church of Christ, 6221 Proctor Road, Sarasota. I was briefed by Sgt. Richard. Present in the west parking lot was Det. Davis with FBI Agents Street and Martinez. They were with a man and woman identified to me by Sgt. Richard as the mother and brother of Joe Smith. Sgt. Richard advised me that based on the description provided by Joe Smith to his brother, this was going to be the location of Carlie Brucia's body. Present were some landmarks that had been mentioned by Smith in addition to being the first church on Proctor just past I-75. Present was the white colored church bus (school bus in appearance). Also present was the basketball court near the end of the parking lot. In the field in the distance was a square shaped structure that was actually a stack of cement blocks. Sgt. Richard advised me that Brucia's body should be located in the wooded area left of the cement blocks.

Taking control of the church property to be secured as a crime scene, I determined no one should proceed past the paved portion of the driveway. I was joined by FBI agents to assist in the security of the crime scene.

**Friday, 2-6-04 0010 hours**

After discussing with Sgt. Al Doane the best appropriate way to approach the area, it was decided for Deputy Olree to walk a trained cadaver sniffing K-9 along the driveway of the adjacent property owned by FPL. Based on an aerial photograph of the church property, it clearly showed the wooded area along the western edge of the church property, heavily overgrown in Brazilian Pepper shrubs to be the fence line separating church from FPL lots. The map showed the FPL driveway to run just to the west side of this wooded fence line. With a slight breeze out of the Northeast at the time, Deputy Olree took his K-9 along the FPL driveway. At 0010 hours Sgt. Doane reported they were near the North end of the FPL driveway, where it makes the curve to the West. There the dog made a positive alert for the presence of a cadaver in that area.

Minutes later, SSO helicopter pilot Roger Jemigan performed a series of fly-overs. He was given the location of the West fence line of the church property to check using FLIR. He informed me he could detect no human shaped forms emitting a heat source. He could only detect some pigs feeding in the area by the woods near I-75.

**0030 hours**

Sgt. Sheila Sullivan arrived at the church property at my request. As she is a Forensics section supervisor, I instructed her to be the only person to proceed beyond the parking lot for the purpose of making a visual confirmation for the presence of Carlie Brucia's body.

At 0038 hours, Sgt. Sullivan advised via Nextel push-to-talk phone that she had located a female's hair "scrunchie" on the ground between the palm tree and the tree line. Shortly after she advised she was walking past a pile of freshly cut Brazilian Pepper limbs.

At 0040 hours, Sgt. Sullivan advised via phone that she had located a girl's body up under a Brazilian Pepper tree. She described the condition of the body as wearing a red shirt, no pants or underwear. There was a sock on the right foot, but the left foot was up under the body and thus not visible. She advised there was possible head trauma (later determined to be associated decomposition) and maggot infestation present.

Upon her return to the parking lot I discussed with Sgt. Sullivan the concern for loss of evidence as rain was forecast for the night and it had begun to lightly sprinkle rain. A decision was made to protect the body for the night by covering it with plastic. Sgt. Sullivan then obtained a newly packaged sheet of plastic from the nearby Wal-Mart store and used it to cover the body. She also covered a tire track observed in the dirt between the parking lot and the square stack of cement blocks.

A plan had already been prepared to have the Forensics units of SSO, FBI and FDLE to respond at 0600 hours to begin the processing of this crime scene at daybreak.

I requested of Sgt. Doan that a detail of approximately 10 deputies be assembled and report to the church at 0700 for the purpose of providing security along the perimeter of the church property. Sgt. Doan later reported back to me that Sgt. Tony Martin would be in charge of this detail of Deputies.

FBI agents and I remained on-scene throughout the early morning hours at the Central Church of Christ. At 0600 hours the Forensic units arrived and were briefed. They prepared and carried out their plans for the gathering and collection of evidence from the scene.

At 0700 hours I briefed Sgt. Martin as to the needs and concerns of crime scene security. His personnel were appropriately deployed to insure the crime scene area was not entered by any unauthorized personnel.

I remained on-scene until 1030 hours when I was relieved of my position by CIB Sgt. Barry Sullivan.



NOTE: For additional activity and information received by me related to this investigation, see that already documented in "Leads."

*Gja 147*

Sleuth Intuition

**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**  
**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**VICTIM:** Carlie Brucia

**CASE NO:** 04-9497

**OFFENSE:** Homicide

**DATE TYPED:** 05/21/04

**STATUS:** Supplement

**PERIOD COVERED BY INVESTIGATION:** 02/12/04 to 05/20/04

**DET:** Det. Kevin Pingel #410 (KP)  
omb

**SUPV:** Sgt. Paul Richard #488

**RELATED CASE(S):** N/A

**COPY TO:** N/A

**SUPPLEMENT**

The telephone record relating to telephone number (941) 544-9648 is a Virgin mobile telephone number assigned to a subject named Christine Montalvo with a billing address of 2062 Jo Ann Dr. #A in Sarasota, FL. An additional contact number is (941) 378-0417.

An Instantner subpoena request was made which asked for all incoming, outgoing, local and toll calls for (941) 544-9648 for 02/01/04. A detailed call summary was obtained in response to the subpoena.

The call summary indicated that on 02/01/04 at 08:40:18 PM a call was placed from (941) 371-9758 to (941) 544-9648. The call was 60 seconds or less in duration. The telephone number (941) 371-9758 is a Verizon number assigned to a payphone located at the Quickstop located at 4529 Bee Ridge Rd. in Sarasota County.

W

**SARASOTA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

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<b>VICTIM:</b>	Carlie Brucia 3630 McIntosh Rd. Sarasota, Fl.	<b>CASE #:</b>	04-4947
<b>OFFENSE:</b>	Kidnapping/Murder	<b>DATE TYPED:</b>	02/17/04
<b>STATUS:</b>	Supplement		

**PERIOD COVERED UNDER INVESTIGATION:** to date

**Det.: Sgt. Stroud # 578**  
Ear  
Copy to:

**SUPV: Lt. R. Albritton # 147**

*Rja*

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**SUPPLEMENT**

**02/02/04**

I attended the morning CIB briefing. Detective Stephanie Graham discussed a missing child case that she had gone out, on the previous evening. The child was last seen at a friend's home.

Later in the day I was advised that the child, Carlie Brucia, W/F, 03/16/92 might have been seen on a security camera videotape. The camera was from Evie's Driving Range and Car Wash located on Bee Ridge Road.

I was present in the CIB with other detectives and viewed the video. I felt from watching the tape that the female was removed from the scene against her will. Her mother and stepfather were brought to the north CIB. I was present when they identified the female in the video as Carlie. They did not know the male subject.

I took the disc to Access 19 to see if they could enhance the video. Access 19 employees could not enhance the images. I returned the disc to Det. Hallisey.

I again began working on the Locator Computer in an effort to produce flyers. At approximately 1730 hours I began taking steps to initiate an Amber Alert. I called FDLE Amber Alert hotline. I made contact with a call taker and was advised that the process would involve a conference call with FDLE personnel.

W

**1815 hours**

The call took place involving Sgt. Richard, FDLE SAS Dave Waller, FDLE Analyst Monterey Nosari and I. I relayed the facts of this case to Waller and Nosari. I requested an Amber Alert be issued for Brucia.

I returned to my office and began researching the Sex Offender database, FI's and recent Criminal Registrations. I was advised that the video would be released that night to the media. I took two calls at my desk after the Amber Alert went out.

One caller thought that a W/M and W/F walking down Bee Ridge today at 1525 hours looked like Brucia and the suspect [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] thought a couple that she saw at Sam's Club on Fruitville Road looked like them. This was tonight around 1830 or 1930 hours.

**02/03/04 0800 hours**

I attended a briefing on this case. I was tasked with coordinating efforts within the CIB. Agents and support personnel from FDLE, FBI and the Missing Child Center began to arrive.

I assisted in setting up a hotline telephone bank in the CIB conference room. I met with our Media office for the distribution of flyers.

I sent Det. Lane to Kissimmee Florida via the SSO helicopter on a lead. Refer to his investigative report for more details.

I continued to research the Sex Offender Database for potential suspects. Later in the day, FDLE Agents assumed this duty. They eventually went out and made contact with numerous registered offenders.

I spent a great deal of time on the logistical aspects of this operation.

I made sure Detectives/Agents were handling telephone calls, following leads etc.

**2000 hours**

I responded to the residence of Joseph Smith, 2738 Ingot Place. I was there to contact his estranged wife. Smith was in the SSO Jail and considered a suspect in Brucia's abduction. I contacted Luze Castrillions-Smith W/F, 05/02/62. She provided me with a

taped statement. She stated that Joseph Smith moved out of the home on 12/31/03. His drug abuse had caused the marital problems that resulted in him moving out. Luze Smith saw Joseph on 02/01/04 at approximately 1030 hours and then on 02/02/04 approximately 0700 hours. See her transcribed statement for more details.

I returned to the North CIB and discussed the case with fellow investigators. Luze Smith had not seen the video. FBI Agent Dave Street and I responded back to her residence. Agent Street interviewed Joseph Smith's sister, Rena, who was staying with Luze Smith. I stood by while Street showed the video to Luze and Rena. (Refer to Agent Street's report for more details).

#### 02/04/04 0015 hours

FBI Agent Leo Martinez, U.S. Deputy Marshall Lisa Alfonso and I went to a residence in the Centergate subdivision. We were tasked with locating a potential witness, Christine Montalvo, W/F, 01/29/63. The residence was actually that of Montalvo's mother. She advised Christine had moved to 3664 Stokes Drive.

We responded to that residence. I noted that we traveled past one of the last places where Brucia was seen on 02/01/04. The home is in very close proximity to Lahania Drive off of Bee Ridge Road. We were able to contact Montalvo at her residence. I took a taped statement from Montalvo while the agents spoke to her teenage son. Montalvo has known Joseph Smith for some time as a mechanic. She claimed he came by her home twice on 02/01/04. The first time was around 1530 to 1600 hours. He returned that night around 2015 hours. He was driving a station wagon. Montalvo advised that she was working at Albritton Fruit Company Sunday night. She received a telephone call from her daughter that Smith was at their door. Montalvo told her daughter not to let him in. She returned home and found Smith sitting in the station wagon. Smith supposedly only spoke to her son about repairing his car and then left. See her statement for more details.

#### 02/04/04 – 02/05/04

I continued to handle the logistical support aspect of this investigation. I was present late on 02/05/04 or early on 02/06/04 when Brucia's body was discovered.

Sgt. Richard and I responded to the crime scene on Proctor Road. We stood by until we were relieved by Lt. R. Albritton and two FBI Agents. During this time I also reviewed numerous fax leads from various sources. Those that were deemed relevant were passed on for entry into the leads system.

I put together a binder with the canvass forms and other documents related to the canvass conducted on 02/03/04. This was provided to Sgt. Richard.

I took no further action in this case.

Sleuth Intuition