

from 2004:

Miss. firm hopes to revive cold case
Clarion-Ledger, The (Jackson, MS) - December 6, 2004
Author: Staff, Camille C. Spencer
Girl gone since '88 among 513 listed missing in state
By Camille C. Spencer - caspencer@jackson.gannett.com

Fliers bearing side-by-side pictures of her face pepper downtown Jackson businesses, from print shops to eateries.

The photo on the left shows a smiling 7-year-old Daffany Tullos, who left her grandparents' home on 4403 Azalea Circle on July 26, 1988, in a blue-and-white striped shirt and shorts after arguing with her mother over fish sticks. She was last seen walking south on Azalea Drive toward Northside Drive.

The picture on the right is a computer-generated sketch of what she would look like at age 18.

It's been 16 years since Tullos, who is epileptic, disappeared. She vanished without her medication, according to the Doe Network Web site. "I decided to work on Daffany's case out of random," he said. "She's been on our Web page for so long. It's a cold case right now."

Piraino said he and Detective Kim Brown of the Jackson Police Department are working together to contact Tullos' family members.

Brown could not be reached for comment Sunday. Her family members could not be located.

Daffany is among 513 Mississippians listed as missing with the National Crime Information Center, which tracks cases submitted by police agencies.

No children are reported missing in Rankin County, Sheriff Ronnie Pennington said.

Capt. Henry Glaze of the Hinds County Sheriff's Department said the situation is the same in Hinds County.

Not all cases are reported to NCIC, since some law enforcement agencies require a family to request the individual be placed in the database, said Todd Matthews a member of the Doe Network .

Reopening a missing person's case doesn't always require help from a law enforcement agency, Matthews said.

"You may not need to involve law enforcement if you get a lot of local attention," he said. "There's so many ways to consider something reopened. The media sometimes has more of an impact on a cold case than a law agency."

Making sure accurate information about an individual is available - such as routes to school and work or detailed clothing descriptions - also helps solve missing persons' cases, Matthews said.

The group has helped law enforcement solve 28 cases nationwide, Matthews said. None of those cases were from Mississippi.

It's difficult to measure the effectiveness of fliers to help reopen a case, Matthews said. He said he hasn't received feedback on Daffany's case since the fliers appeared last month.

"I've seen (fliers) be very instrumental in some cases, and other cases, they are almost ignored," he said. "I've seen them turn yellow in doorways of buildings, as if almost unseen. A lot depends on complacency of the case. If it's a younger person, children are much harder to ignore."

Members of the Doe Network examine each case individually to adapt their search for a missing person, Matthews said.

"You look for what the case needs, what's lacking," he said. "A news article, age progression. Daffany's a long-term case, and a lot of these long-term people are martyrs for the cause."

But the likelihood of Daffany being alive is slim, Matthews said, who added that an updated computer sketch of Tullos at what would be her current age - 23 - could help the case.

"I would probably think this little girl is dead because of her (not having) medications," he said.

STATISTICS

About 103,484 missing people from the United States and Canada are listed on the National Crime Information Center database. The count is an estimate, since not all missing people are reported on NCIC.

About 513 people are missing in the state of Mississippi.

Of the 513 missing people, about 200 are younger than 18.

Anyone with information on a missing person should contact the Jackson Police Department at (601) 960-1234.

<http://www.doenetwork.org/media/news174.html>

Jackson police re-open cold case from 1988

Posted: Oct 07, 2009 5:36 PM CDT

Updated: Oct 07, 2009 5:38 PM CDT

Jackson, MS (WLBT) - Jackson police are re-opening a 21-year-old cold case involving a missing girl.

Back in 1988, then 7-year-old Daffany Tullos left her Azalea Circle home to play. She was never seen again. Police had no suspects or leads on the little girl, who suffered from epilepsy.

Wednesday, Jackson Police Deputy Chief Gerald Jones was joined by former Assistant Police Chief Edna Drake, who worked the case, and detectives from the Centers for Missing and Exploited Children.

New technology will be applied to old evidence, in hopes of cracking the case.

"We do have articles that were recovered at the time, we will be submitting for lab," Deputy Chief Jones says.

"We also have family members that will be providing standards for us, we can put into that nationwide database."

If you have any information about the disappearance of Daffany Tullos 21 years ago, contact the Jackson Police Missing Persons Unit at 601-960-1210.

<http://www.wlbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=11276708>

VIDEO on the site <http://www.fox40now.com/news/local/63710362.html>

21-Year-Old Year Old Case Gets Thawed Out
By Dustin Barnes

Story Created: Oct 7, 2009 at 6:13 PM CDT

Story Updated: Oct 8, 2009 at 8:50 AM CDT

Jackson Police are asking for your help to solve the 21-year old cold case of a missing Jackson girl. In a press conference at JPD Headquarters Wednesday, police say Daphne Tullos walked outside her Azalea Drive home back in 1988 and has never been seen since. She was 8 years old at the time.

Officials say they have not received any new leads in the investigation in the past two years and one of their primary interview subjects has died. Two representatives from the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children will be in Jackson and are assisting with the case.

Anyone with any information about this investigation is asked to call the Jackson Police Department at (601) 960-1234.

<http://www.fox40now.com/news/local/63710362.html>

PD enlists missing children's center for 21-year-old case
Nicklaus Lovelady • nicklaus.lovelady@jackson.gannett.com • October 8, 2009

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Twitter The Jackson Police Department has teamed with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to hopefully solve the disappearance of then-7-year-old Daffany Tullos 21 years ago.

"This is a long time coming," said Edna Drake, a retired JPD assistant chief and one of the original detectives assigned to the case. "That was one case the police department was hard-pressed to resolve."

Daffany disappeared on July 26, 1988, when she walked away from her grandparents' home at 4403 Azalea Circle after arguing with her mother over fish sticks. She was last seen in a blue-and-white striped shirt and shorts walking south on Azalea Drive toward Northside Drive.

Daffany is epileptic and did not have her medication when she disappeared, according to her family.

Tullos' family members could not be reached Wednesday following an afternoon news conference where JPD officials discussed the case.

She is among 551 people missing from Mississippi, according to the National Crime Information Center.

JPD Deputy Chief Gerald Jones said his department has worked with the Center throughout the search for Tullos, but this is the first time JPD has requested the help of investigators.

"You look at where you are in a case and you try to determine what you need at a particular time. We felt that now would be the most beneficial time to bring them in," he said.

Jones calls the investigators "a fresh set of eyes" who will dissect the case by looking at how JPD approached it, re-interview the detectives and witnesses and review leads.

The agency also offers an array of technical and forensic services, all at no cost to the city.

"Sometimes we're able to re-interview people who will offer a little bit more information than before," said Terry Torgensen a Center consultant.

Jones said detectives are holding onto hope that Tullos is still alive.

"There's nothing out there to say she's not. And if she is alive, we'll find her," he said.

The last substantial lead came two years ago when someone in the neighborhood came forward with new information, Jones said. He would not elaborate.

In the 26 years Jones has been with JPD, he said there has been a near perfect record for finding or recovering missing people, with Tullos being one of the exceptions.

"We've spent thousand and thousands of hours on this case, but when we find her it will all be worth it," Jones said.

To comment on this story, call Nicklaus Lovelady at (601) 961-7239.

<http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20091.../910080351/1001>

JACKSON, MS (Mississippi News Now) -

Friday will be the 25th anniversary of the disappearance of Annie Laurie Hearin and Daphne Tullos.

No connection has ever been made between the two cases except they both disappeared on the same day in Jackson.

Annie Laurie Hearin disappeared from her Woodland Hills house without a trace July 26, 1988.

Seven-year-old Daphne Tullos disappeared from her northwest Jackson home and no trace of her has ever been found either. The National Center for Missing Children has used age progression photo technology to show how she would look now.

Annie Laurie Hearin's husband, Bob Hearin, was one of the richest men in Mississippi at the time of her disappearance, and sent out more than a million dollars to people he thought might know where his wife was. Much of the money was returned with no luck.

A 65-year-old Florida man, Newton Alfred Winn, was convicted of conspiracy to kidnap in the case. He was represented by court appointed attorney John Collette.

"Newton Alfred Winn told me he didn't do it, and I accept that," said Collette.

Collette believes the FBI did a good job looking for Hearin.

"Search Florida, search Louisiana and the Jackson-Fondren area and very little of evidentially value was discovered," add Collette.

Former Jackson Police Chief Jim Black doubts the case will ever be solved unless there is a confession.

<http://www.wlox.com/story/22936214/hearin-...-still-unsolved>