Kanawha County Sheriff's Office

Disappearance and Murder of Ericka Brown

Investigation Overview

- Reported missing to KCSO at 11:00 a.m. 8/10/14
- Soon learned Ericka used Craigs List postings to meet men
- Interviewed many people who contacted her through the listing
- Phone records did not support the interviewed as persons of interest in the disappearance
- Ericka's cell phone data showed her phone using towers from Cross Lanes, WV to Jackson County, WV and the Portland, OH area
- Hundreds of thousands of phone records searched until evidence indicated Ernest Roach met with Ericka Brown the night she disappeared
- Mr. Roach was questioned once on 8/27/14
- He volunteered to meet KCSO detectives for a polygraph on 8/28/14, but never showed
- Mr. Roach fled from his residence, later reappearing in Belpre, OH
- KCSO and FBI went with Belpre PD and Washington Co Sheriff Deputies around that town on 8/29/14 searching for him
- Mr. Roach was arrested on 8/30/14 by Ohio State Highway Patrol in Washington County, OH
- KCSO Detectives interviewed Mr. Roach
- At the same time Ericka Brown's body was recovered in Meigs County, OH from the Ohio River



Partners

- United States Attorney's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Meigs County OH Prosecutor's Office
- Meigs County OH Sheriff's Office
- Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation
- Washington County OH Sheriff's Ofc.
- Belpre Ohio Police Department
- Jackson County WV Sheriff's Office
- Kanawha County Sheriff's Office
- Kanawha Bureau of Investigation

Charges

- United States Attorney: Travel in interstate commerce with intent to engage in any illicit sexual conduct with another person
- Meigs County: Murder