

# Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

## Office of Public Information

400-B S. Martin L. King Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89106

Office (702) 828-3394 Fax (702) 828-1550



Joseph Lombardo, Sheriff

January 17, 2018

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Director Carla Alston  
Sergeant Jeff Clark  
Officer Laura Meltzer  
Officer Larry Hadfield  
Officer Jacinto Rivera  
Officer Aden OcampoGomez

## Arrest Made in Cold Case Homicide

### Continued Testing of Sexual Assault Kits Helped Solve Case

In March 2016 a sexual assault kit was sent to a contract DNA lab for DNA testing as part of a 2015 grant from the District Attorney's Office New York to test sexual assault kits that had never been tested for DNA analysis. In October 2016, the report from the lab came back with an identification of male DNA from the sexual assault kit. In February 2017 this DNA profile was entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). The profile came back to 51-year-old Arthur Sewall.

The kit that was tested was from a victim of a sexual assault and homicide that was discovered on May 8, 1997. On that date, the body of a woman was found in a vacant duplex located at 1226 Reed Place. It appeared the victim had been sexually assaulted and shot.

As a result of additional investigation between February 2017 and December 2017, coupled with the findings from the sexual assault kit, detectives identified Arthur Sewall as the suspect in this case. It was learned that Sewall was living in Reno, Nevada and on January 11, 2018, detectives traveled to Reno and interviewed Sewall. On January 12, 2018 an arrest warrant was issued for Arthur Sewall for one count of murder with a deadly weapon and one count of sexual assault with a deadly weapon. He is currently in the process of being transported from Reno to the Clark County Detention Center.

Sewall had worked at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department as a Corrections Officer in 1990, and in 1992 he was commissioned as a Police Officer with the LVMPD. In February 1997 Sewall was arrested for sexual assault and oppression under color of law. He resigned from the LVMPD in March 1997.

###

Don't forget to visit our web sites

[www.LVMPD.com](http://www.LVMPD.com) or [www.ProtectTheCity.com](http://www.ProtectTheCity.com)



A DMV photo of Arthur Sewall accompanies this release. A booking photo of Arthur Sewall will be sent once he is booked into the Clark County Detention Center.

CODIS is operated, supported and managed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The DNA Identification Act of 1994 gave authority to the FBI to establish a national DNA database. The purpose of CODIS is to aid investigations by providing leads. Names, social security numbers, ID numbers and other personally identifiable information are not stored in CODIS. The database is comprised of DNA profiles and special codes to identify which forensic laboratory entered the genetic information.

Anyone with any information about this case is urged to contact the LVMPD Homicide Section by phone at 702-828-3521, or by email at [homicide@lvmpd.com](mailto:homicide@lvmpd.com). To remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 702-385-5555, or on the internet at [www.crimestoppersofnv.com](http://www.crimestoppersofnv.com). Tips leading directly to an arrest or indictment processed through Crime Stoppers may be eligible for a cash reward.

**PO 009 01-17-18**  
**970508-0583 LM**

###

*Don't forget to visit our web sites*  
[www.LVMPD.com](http://www.LVMPD.com) or [www.ProtectTheCity.com](http://www.ProtectTheCity.com)