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For Immediate Release: Dallas County DA's Office Cold Case Division Secures 30-Year Sentence for 1984 Murder

(Dallas, Texas) – Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot announced that Edward Morgan, 64, pleaded guilty and has been sentenced to 30 years in prison for the 1984 murder of 21-year-old Mary Jane Thompson. Morgan has waived his right to appeal.

Thanks to collaborative efforts between the Dallas County District Attorney's Office's new Cold Case Division, the Dallas Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Morgan was arrested in 2022, nearly 38 years to the day after Thompson was found behind a Dallas warehouse. Thompson had been sexually assaulted and murdered on Irving Boulevard on February 13, 1984.

The case had gone unsolved for decades. In 2009, Dallas Police reopened the investigation and completed DNA testing on swabs from the autopsy. While an unknown male DNA profile was identified, it could not be matched to any suspect at the time, and the case went cold again.

In 2018, Dallas Police Cold Case Homicide Detective Noe Camacho revisited the case and worked with the DA's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) team to pursue emerging forensic testing techniques. By 2020, the FBI had joined the joint investigative task force. The case was submitted for investigative genetic genealogy analysis (IGG) -- the same technology used to identify the Golden State Killer. Through IGG, investigators identified Edward Morgan of Dallas as the suspect, and subsequent DNA testing confirmed that he matched the profile taken from Thompson during the 1984 autopsy.

Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot praised the teamwork and perseverance behind the conviction, stating, "This case is a powerful example of what our Cold Case Division was created to do. Their dedication, in partnership with DPD and the FBI, ensured that Mary Jane Thompson finally received justice nearly four decades after her life was stolen. No matter how much time passes, our commitment to solving cold cases and standing up for victims and their families never wavers."

The Dallas County Cold Case Initiative Project -- announced in December 2024 following a \$2.3 million grant award -- reinforces the Dallas County DA's Office's commitment to solving cold cases and securing justice for survivors of violent crime. Under this initiative,

responsibilities are shared between the DA's Cold Case Division, which focuses exclusively on unsolved murders, and the SAKI Unit.

Special recognition goes to Cold Case Division Chief ADA Leighton D'Antoni and Investigator Jon Wakefield of the Dallas County DA's Office, as well as DPD Detective Noe Camacho, the FBI Dallas Violent Crimes Task Force, and the DPD CRT Team for their exceptional work on this case