# COLD CASE TASK FORCE

**February 2, 2018**

**2:30 PM – 3:30 PM**

**Present: Director John Camper, Deputy Director Ted Mink, Deputy Executive Director Bec Spiess, Assistant Director Katie Fetherston, AIC Kirby Lewis, Audrey Simkins, Hazel Heckers, James Isham, JF Somosky, Allie Jacoby, Dan Seidel, Kimberly Pino, Amber Reese, Amy Schwinck, Zana Silevani, Jessica Filipeli, DoraLee Larson, Cynthia Kowert, Paul Goodman, Rob Wells, Tara Wrysec, Beth Buchholtz, Paul Blee, Ramona Blee, Sandy Lowther, Laura Saxton, Sean Gruno, Craig Scott, Matt Clark, Avery-Grace Blanco, Angela Lowther, Melissa Kraker and Paula Williams**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

* John Camper opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. The Missing Person’s event at the Capital was very impressive and Laura Saxton was thanked for her hard work.

**CBI UPDATES**

**Cold Case Database**

The database contains information regarding unresolved cases dating back to 1970. We have 1715 cases in the database and they can be broken down in the following way:

Homicide – 1349

Long-Term Missing – 334

Unidentified Remains – 29

Other - 3

In preparation for Missing in Colorado event, we have done a complete review of all of the missing person records. There are a handful of records that will need to be added to the Cold Case Database.

Last meeting we talked about adding images of the Cold Case Playing Card to the database. This should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

**Cold Case Training Class – POST Grant Funded**

Training has been scheduled for May 1 and May 2 in the first floor conference room at 690.

Training has been tentatively planned for April or June of this year at the Arapahoe County Sheriff’s Office.

We may look into requesting funds during the Sunset Review for the training to be held independently of POST. The estimated cost is between $5000 and $6000.

**Playing Cards**

Tips are coming in from the playing card program and we are in the process of restocking several agencies. We are continuing to collect cases for Deck 5 but we will have to look into funding. This would be another topic to possibly address during the Sunset Review.

**Cold Case Review Team**

The Cold Case Review Team meeting was held on December 14, 2017 at the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office. Two missing person’s cases were presented. Both were for victims missing for approximately 18 months.

The next date for the Cold Case Review Team has not yet been set. There are two agencies that are in the process of putting presentations together and we will get the meeting scheduled when they are ready to present.

**Forensic Services**

Stats for 2017:

Total received 60,254 (not all in CODIS)

Total Arrestee samples profiled and entered into CODIS 32,839

Total Convicted samples profiled and entered in CODIS 7,323

Total Offenders in CODIS 40,162

Types of Crime Scene Evidence:  
Property Crimes (not burglary) 470

Sex Crimes 279

Robbery 100

Homicide 4

Unidentified Human Remains 1

Rapid DNA – We have had the opportunity to work with a vendor that makes the instruments used for Rapid DNA. There is also a second vendor that is providing an instrument for testing.

Crime scene training information is on the web site. There will be two different trainings offered. One of the trainings will be for newer crime scene investigators and one will be more involved. Three sessions of each type of training will be offered.

**Recent Successes**

Donthe Lucas was charged with first-degree murder in the Kelsie Schelling case. He still has not given information on her location. Laura Saxton is thankful for the arrest and she specifically thanked AIC Jodi Wright and Agent Kevin Koback for their work on the case.

**Open Forum**

Hazel Heckers let everyone know that CBI is interested in exploring options for our victim assistance program to offer support to victims/co-victims in cold case homicides and missing persons cases. She invited any of the attendees to reach out to her if they wanted to offer opinions or chat with her about it more.

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**FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting will be held May 4, 2018 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM at 690 Kipling Street, Denver, CO 80215 in the first floor conference room.