



Abilene Police Department Information Release



Our mission is to work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations.

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Abilene, Texas 79601
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Subject – Identification of Human Remains In Jones County

Contact – Sgt. Lynn Beard-Abilene Police Department
Or
Jones County District Attorney's Office

Phone – 325-676-6628 (Sgt. Beard)

On October 20, 2010, human skeletal remains were located in the 11000 block of Jones County Road 356. A joint investigation was initiated into circumstances surrounding this case by the Texas Rangers, Abilene Police Department, Jones County Sheriff's Office, and Jones County DA's office. The skeletal remains were sent to the University of North Texas DNA Lab for analysis along with a DNA sample from a local missing person whom we suspected to be the deceased. On February 10, 2011, the Abilene Police Department received information from UNT indicating the DNA obtained from the skeletal remains positively matched the sample from the missing person from Abilene.

The remains have been identified as Michael Brandon Bates, a white male, 23 years of age. He was last seen in Abilene on June 29, 2004. Bates was reported missing by his mother (who lives out of town) in April of 2005. The victim's family has been notified.

This case is being investigated as a homicide and has been forwarded to the Jones County District Attorney's Office for review. This is an active investigation and a suspect has been identified in this case.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Lynn Beard
Abilene Police Department