FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Detective Martin Garland
          Bremerton Police Department
          (360) 473-5488
          (360) 340-1270

Bremerton Detectives Arrest Man for Murder in 26 Year-Old Cold Case

On January 2, 2019, detectives from the Bremerton Police Department went to Boise, Idaho and arrested 54-year-old Lee Robert Miller for Murder in the Second Degree. The arrest is the culmination of a 26-year investigation into the death of 57-year-old Marilyn Hickey of Bremerton, Washington. Most recently the case was re-opened late in 2017 and has been worked as a ‘cold case’ since then.

On September 10, 1992, the Bremerton Police Department received a call asking officers to conduct a welfare check at an apartment in the 400 block of Chester Avenue in Bremerton. Officers responded and found Marilyn Hickey deceased inside her apartment. The investigation showed Marilyn met her death by homicidal means. Evidentiary items were collected at the scene. However, after many active months, there were no arrests, and the case went cold.

In 2006, the case was opened, and several pieces of evidence were sent to the Washington State Crime Lab. The WSP Crime Laboratory was able to obtain a complete DNA profile and entered the profile into CODIS (Combined DNA Index System). A check of CODIS did not return any person matches, however, the DNA did match the DNA in another unsolved homicide case from Boise, ID.

Detectives from the Bremerton Police Department worked with detectives from the Boise Police Department to identify Lee Robert Miller as the suspect with the matching DNA. Boise detectives were able to obtain a DNA sample for Lee Robert Miller and submitted it to the Idaho State Crime Lab. Further analysis confirmed the DNA from Lee Robert Miller matched the profiles from both unsolved homicides.

An arrest warrant was obtained for Lee Robert Miller by the Kitsap County Prosecutor’s Office for one count of Murder in the Second Degree. Extradition to Washington is currently pending.

The Bremerton Police Department was assisted in this investigation by the Kitsap County Prosecutor’s Office, WSP Crime Laboratory, Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP), FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit, WA Attorney General’s Office HITS Program and the Boise Police Department.

Jim Burchett, Chief of Police
Bremerton Police Department
1025 Burwell Street
Bremerton, WA 98337
james.burchett@ci.bremerton.wa.us