

Woman found dead in Portland, Maine, in 2015 is finally identified



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PORTLAND, Maine —

Investigators have finally identified a woman whose body was found at East End Beach in Portland in 2015.

Investigators believe she committed suicide by drowning in the ocean. Her body was found on May 22, 2015.

Within a month, [police released a sketch and pictures of her clothing and jewelry](#).



Portland Police Department



Portland Police Department

At the time, she was described as Asian, between 30 and 50 years old. Police said she was 5 feet, 1 inch tall and weighed 100 pounds.

According to the Maine Medical Examiner's office, the woman, known for the last decade as Jane Doe Portland, has now been confirmed to be **Byung Ran Kim**, a 66-year-old woman whose last known address was in New York.

Over the years, police had produced and released another approximate sketch of the woman, submitted her fingerprints to the FBI and provided a DNA sample to the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). None of these avenues produced a possible name of the woman.

The DNA profile was then submitted to DNA Doe Project, who conducted forensic genetic genealogy. The Project determined that Jane Doe Portland was likely South Korean, but did not come up with a name.

Portland Police Detective Andjelko Napijalo reached out to officials in South Korea and kept pushing them to help. Police in South Korea compared Jane Doe's fingerprints to their records and were able to identify Kim in May of 2026.

Her family in South Korea has been notified.