

**Pelc**

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## MYSTERY 'JOHN DOE' IDENTIFIED

By BRETT BROWN - Reporter Wed,02/08/23-8:00AM, **3,707 Reads**

A body found in Tate County almost 23 years ago has been identified, according to authorities.

Deputy Coroner Ernie Lentz said officials from the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation (MBI) identified the subject as Richard E. Pelc, 35, of Herndon Road in Parsons, Tenn. The city of Parsons is approximately 126 miles northeast of Memphis.

Lentz said a previously unidentified deceased white male was discovered March 23, 2000, on a section of Arkabutla Lake public land access off Palestine Road in the Beartail Creek area near Greenleaf. The

individual had been shot multiple times but not at the location where his body was discovered, Lentz added. An autopsy was conducted on the individual and fingerprints and DNA were collected for future identification. Lentz said an MBI agent notified him Jan. 18, Pelc had been identified by a fingerprint match and his cremated remains were released to his mother a few days later.

No suspects have been arrested in connection with the crime and MBI has not released any other information related to the incident.