

# 1985 Tennessee homicide victim identified as New Hampshire missing 17-year-old

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Photo: TBI

AA

GREENE COUNTY, Tenn. (WZTV) — More than 30 years ago, the partially decomposed body of a young woman was discovered along Interstate 81 in Greene County near Exit 44. The Jane Doe's death was ruled a homicide by special agents with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Autopsy results determined the victim died three weeks before her body was found on April 14, 1985, but investigators could not positively identify her remains. Over time, the investigation continued and a sample of the remains were submitted to the University of North Texas Center for Human Identification.

A DNA profile for the victim was produced in 2006 and entered into the Combined DNA Index System as detectives hoped for a match. This week, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation received news they had been waiting for when the center confirmed the victim's identity through DNA.

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The remains were identified as those of Elizabeth Lamotte, 17, who was missing out of New Hampshire. Lamotte was last seen alive in November 1984.

It was only last year that New Hampshire detectives found Lamotte's family members and gathered DNA samples from them, then sending them to CODIS.

The investigation into the circumstances surrounding Lamotte's death remains active and ongoing. Anyone with information about Lamotte's murder or days prior has been urged to call 1-800-TBI-FIND.