COLD CASE HOMICIDE INVESTIGATIONS
• WHAT IS A COLD CASE: AN UNSOLVED INVESTIGATION THAT REMAINS OPEN PENDING THE DISCOVERY OF NEW EVIDENCE.

• COLD CASES ARE NOT TIME SPECIFIC.
• CLEARANCE RATES

• A HOMICIDE IS CONSIDERED CLEARED BY:
  • ARREST
  • DEATH OF THE OFFENDER
  • JUSTIFIED
• National Homicide Clearance Rate 61% (2019 FBI UCR)
TOPEKA HOMICIDE TOTALS

2011-2020

179 HOMICIDES
145 CLEARED
81% CLEARANCE RATE
COLD CASES

- 1980-1999: 30 (APPROXIMATION)
- 2000-2020: 43
MISSING PERSONS

- MISSING PERSONS 2019 OR EARLIER 22
- SUSPECTED HOMICIDES 4 (MIN)
HOW COLD CASES ARE SOLVED.

• WITNESSES
• CONFESSIONS
• PHYSICAL EVIDENCE
NOTABLE UNSOLVED HOMICIDES

- 1978 Shirley Steiner
- 1981 Jackie Hay (missing person)
- 1993 Troy Koepke
- 1994 Roxanne Zwisler
- 2013 Quadruple Homicide at 1629 SW Central Pk
- 2020 Crystal Andrews/Mercedes Holford
OLD COLD CASES SOLVED IN KANSAS

- BTK KILLER (DENNIS RADER/10 MURDERS)
- CRIMES OCCURRED BETWEEN 1974-1991
- TIME IT TOOK TO SOLVE 31 YEARS
• GETER RHYMES, ARRESTED IN 2021
• CRIME OCCURRED IN 1985 IN JOHNSON COUNTY
• TIME IT TOOK TO SOLVE  36 YEARS
TOPEKA COLD CASE ARRESTS
1998

• Thomas Berberich was charged with the 1979 murder of Jack Hanrahan, age 12. Berberich was acquitted.
2011

• DANA CHANDLER WAS CHARGED WITH THE 2002 MURDERS OF KAREN HARKNESS AND MICHAEL SISCO. CASE IS PENDING.
2014

- MONROE LOCKHART WAS CHARGED IN THE 2000 MURDER OF DAMON ANDERSON. HE PLEAD GUILTY.
• SEPTEMBER 2020

• YANEZ SANFORD CHARGED WITH THE 2016 MURDERS OF DOMINIC RAY, CAMRAH TROTTER AND HER UNBORN BABY. CASE IS PENDING.
• OCTOBER 2020

• JAVON SMITH CHARGED WITH THE 2017 MURDER OF KIANNA HODGE. CASE IS PENDING.
• MARCH 2021

• CLAUDE KEARSE WAS CHARGED WITH THE 2019 MURDER OF DARIUS CALVERT. DARIUS CALVERT WAS ORIGINALLY A REPORTED MISSING PERSON. CASE IS PENDING.
MY RESPONSIBILITIES

• POSITION CREATED IN JAN/2020 BY D.A. MIKE KAGAY
• CIVILIAN POSITION
• ANALYSIS/SUPPORT TPD HOMICIDE UNIT
QUESTIONS