

Power Point Presentation
By Mark Smith on
3/3/2001 To A Panel
AT THE Nat'l Center
For Missing & Exploited
Children

A long-term case panel review was conducted at NCMEC on March 3, 2001. The panel met in the upper mezzanine conference room of the Charles B. Wang International Children's Building located at 699 Prince Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Detective Sergeant Mark Smith of the Hollywood Florida Police Department presented the investigative details of the Adam Walsh abduction/murder case to the panel.

The Case Review panel was composed of the following individuals:

- Lieutenant Robert Davis (Retired) New York City Police Department
- Chief of Detectives Arthur R. Feldman (Retired) Suffolk County Police Dept.
- Investigator William C. Gleason (Retired) Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office
- Detective 2nd Grade Maureen A. Kempton (Retired) New York City Police Dept.
- Sergeant John W. Hamilton (Retired) Los Angeles Police Department
- SA Gerald "Duke" Diedrich (Retired) FBI- San Francisco Office
- Sgt. Michael Harris (Retired) New York City Police Department
- Lou Elipulos – Cold Case Analyst, U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- Ann Scofield – Project ALERT Manager, NCMEC (Retired) Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office
- Ben Ermini – Director Missing Children's Division, NCMEC (Retired) Yonkers NY Police Dept.
- Ron Jones – Senior Case Manager, NCMEC (Retired) Washington Metro Police Dept.
- Gerry Nance – Case Manager, NCMEC (Retired) U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Detective Sergeant Mark Smith provided a detailed overview of the 20-year-old investigation of the abduction murder of Adam Walsh that occurred on July 27, 1981. The panel directed many questions to Det. Sgt. Smith who was able to respond with the answers and to elaborate on many aspects of the investigation.

Based on the case review the panel is able to offer the following recommendations for the continuation of this investigation:

- **It is recommended:** that a complete review of the entire case file by law enforcement professionals not involved in the previous or current investigation of the case be conducted. This review should be conducted for the purpose of determining previously overlooked leads, incomplete interviewing of witnesses, the utilization of recently developed technology initiatives not available during the initial phases of the investigation, and for the development of a new or fresh investigative approach to the investigation.
- **It is recommended:** that an investigative plan be developed to take advantage of the twenty-year anniversary of Adam's disappearance on July 27, 2001. Memorial services should be planned in order to generate renewed media attention that could hopefully develop new investigative leads. Renewed media attention may also develop new witnesses who may have been reluctant to offer information at the initial stages of the investigation.
- **It is recommended:** that investigators obtain expert opinions on the condition of the child's recovered head. Information should be solicited from the Tennessee Body Farm and other

experimental/research projects concerning the condition of the head at the time it was located.

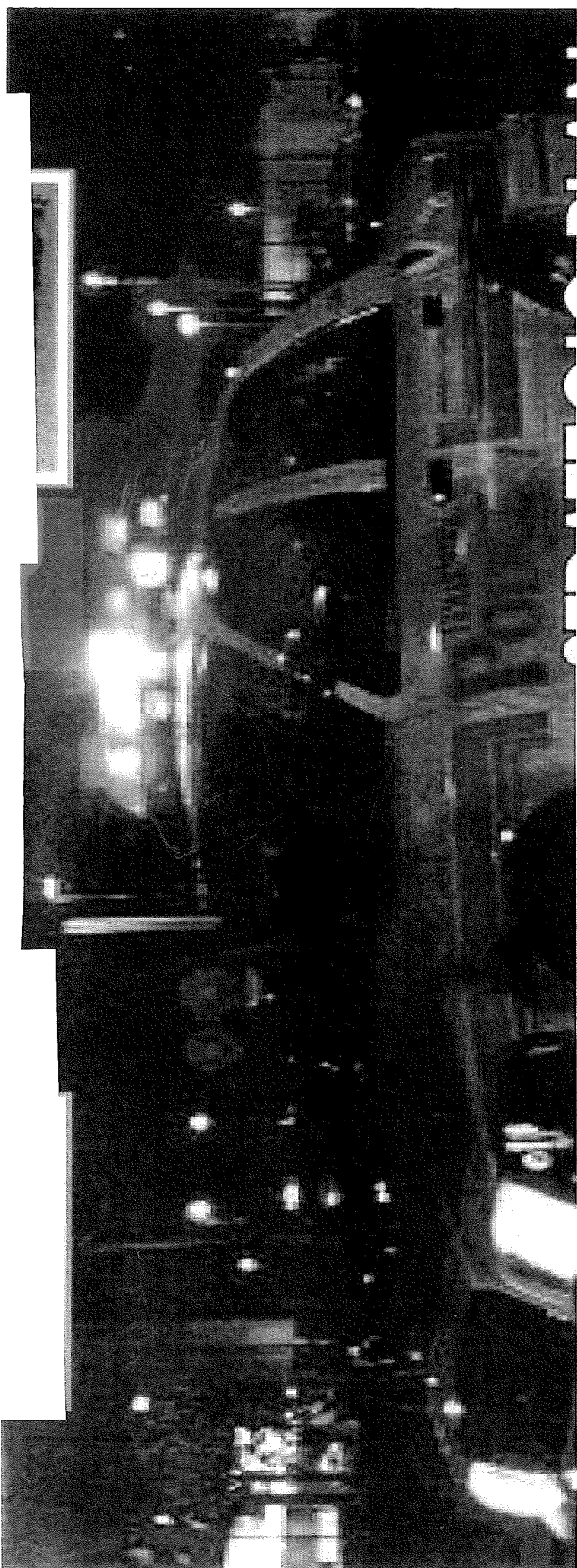
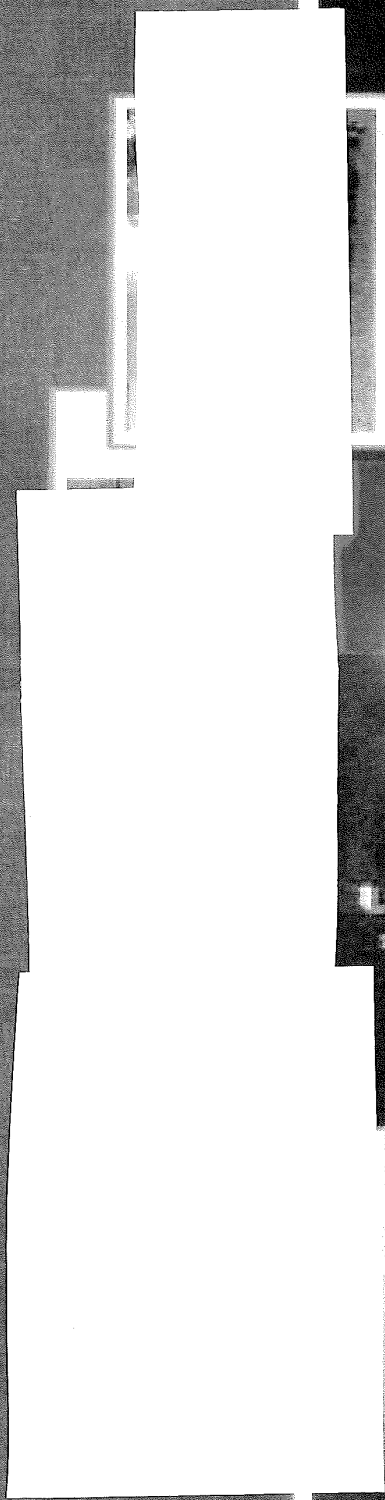
- **It is recommended:** that all available witnesses and suspects be re-interviewed. Update criminal record information on previously developed suspects. Project ALERT assistance is available for this purpose upon request by the investigating agency.
- ✓ • **It is recommended:** that all Florida Medical Examiners be contacted to determine if there have been any recoveries of body parts or skeletal remains that are consistent with the time frame of this investigation and physical descriptors of the victim child.
- **It is recommended:** that the children removed from the Sears Department store by the security guard on the day that Adam was abducted be located and the children not previously interviewed (two black youths) be contacted and interviewed regarding their actions, recollections, and observations.
- **It is recommended:** that the records of Florida correctional facilities be checked to determine who was released from the various facilities for a period of several months prior to the abduction of the child. Particular attention should be given to south Florida facilities.
- **It is recommended:** Efforts should be continued to locate the evidence that was seized and misplaced by the lab during the examination process. The individuals who were involved in the evidence chain should be located and re-interviewed in detail. All evidence that is currently available should be re-examined to determine if blood or other distinguishing characteristics is present.

Active long-term or “cold cases” can be resolved through the re-examination of old evidence utilizing new forensic technology that was not available at the time of the initial investigation. Re-interviewing of witnesses in the hope that previously withheld information will be forthcoming are useful strategies to be addressed in resolution of “cold cases”. We hope that NCMEC’s case review experience was useful to you and to your department. We remind you that Project ALERT assistance is available upon request.



Hollywood Police Department

Jim Scarberry, Chief of Police

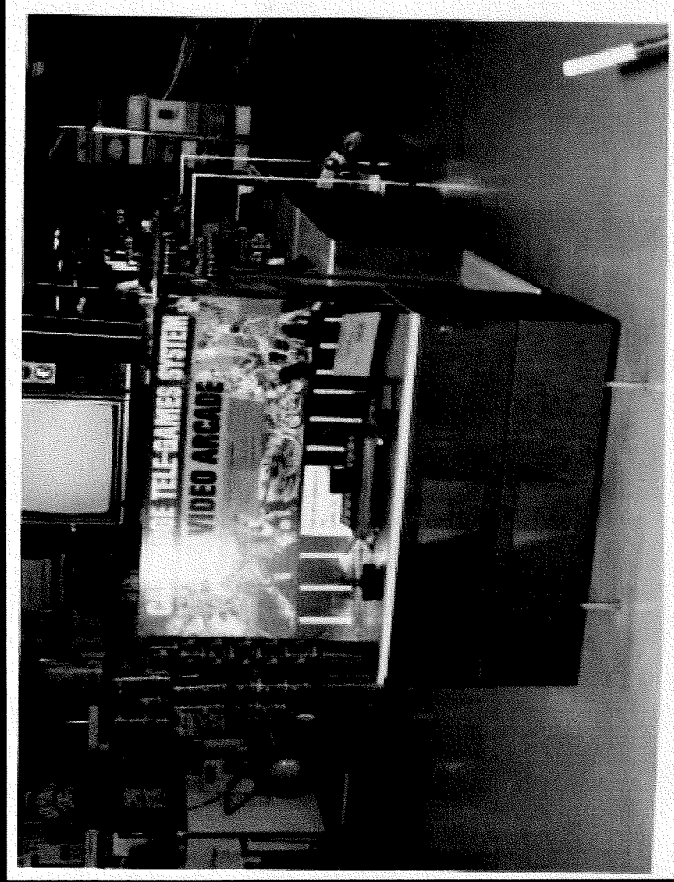


ADAM WALSH
HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION

DETECTIVE SERGEANT MARK SMITH
HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT
MARCH 2001

Adam Walsh

- July 27, 1981 at 1:55PM Reve Walsh reports her 6 year old son missing from the Sears Store at the Hollywood Mall.



Adam Walsh

- An exhaustive search was conducted by the Hollywood police, the Walshes, friends, and strangers. No leads were developed.
- Investigators turned their attention to Sears in hopes of locating witnesses.
- A women shopping at the mall with her son believes she observed Adam being placed in a blue van.

Adam Walsh

A plainclothes security officer admits to escorting a group of boys out of the garden shop entrance/exit around the time Adam was left in the toy department. She is not sure if Adam was one of the boys.

Adam Walsh

- Police center their investigation on the family and friends.
- John and Reve agree to a polygraph. The results are that no deception was noted.

Adam Walsh

- James Campbell a close family friend and occasional babysitter for Adam agrees to a polygraph.



Adam Walsh

- During the pre-polygraph interview, Campbell admits to an affair with Reve Walsh.
- Reve Walsh subsequently admits to the affair.
- This information interests Detectives working the case.

Adam Walsh

- Campbell is interviewed extensively but denies any involvement. No information is gathered to implicate Campbell whom to this day claims his innocence. The Walshes do not believe that Campbell did anything wrong.

Adam Walsh

- August 11, 1981 John and Reve Walsh appear on national television, the Good Morning America Show, to plea for Adam's safe return.
- John Walsh is aware that remains are discovered.
- After the show the Walshes are informed that the remains are that of Adam's.

Adam Walsh

- Medical Examiner reports the death was due to asphyxiation and had expired at least 10 days prior. Adam was reported missing 14 days prior.
- Investigation into the murder results in numerous tips and leads with none panning out.

Adam Walsh

- Most leads center around the blue van. As previously noted, this van may not have had anything to do with the incident.
- Many possible suspects were mentioned.
- Most notable Edward James. James was a suspect in an abduction of a 10 year old girl in Pompano Beach. Not successfully investigated or eliminated.

Adam Walsh

- Several persons allegedly confessed through various persons. Follow-ups reveal they were bogus claims.
- Case remains unsolved without viable leads or suspects.
- October 11, 1983 Det. Hoffman is contacted by Det. Kindrick of the Brevard County Sheriffs Office. Det. Kindrick informs Det. Hoffman about Ottis Toole.

Adam Walsh

- Kindrick interviewed Toole on October 10, 1983 in Jacksonville, Florida about a murder in Brevard County when he volunteered information about a “serious crime in the Fort Lauderdale area” .
- According to Kindrick, Toole became emotional when discussing this incident which he referred to as an abduction/murder of a young boy.

Adam Walsh

- Coincidentally, the T.V. movie called “Adam” is aired on national television on October 11, 1983 at 9:00PM.
- A review of the tape of this movie revealed that it did not contain certain specific facts about the case.
- On October 19, 1983 Hollywood Detectives responded to Jacksonville to speak with Toole.

Adam Walsh

- Toole confesses to the abduction of a young boy between 7 and 10 years of age from a Mall with a Sears store in the Fort Lauderdale area approximately 2 years previous.
- Toole placed the time of the abduction to be approximately 12 noon and that the child was standing outside at the time.

Adam Walsh

- In the first statement, Toole implicates his friend and lover Henry Lee Lucas.
- Lucas was quickly discovered to have been incarcerated in Maryland at the time of the abduction.

Adam Walsh

- When confronted with this fact, Toole admits to making up that portion because he was trying to get back at Lucas whom he suspected of killing his niece.
- Toole still insists that he abducted and murdered the child.

Adam Walsh

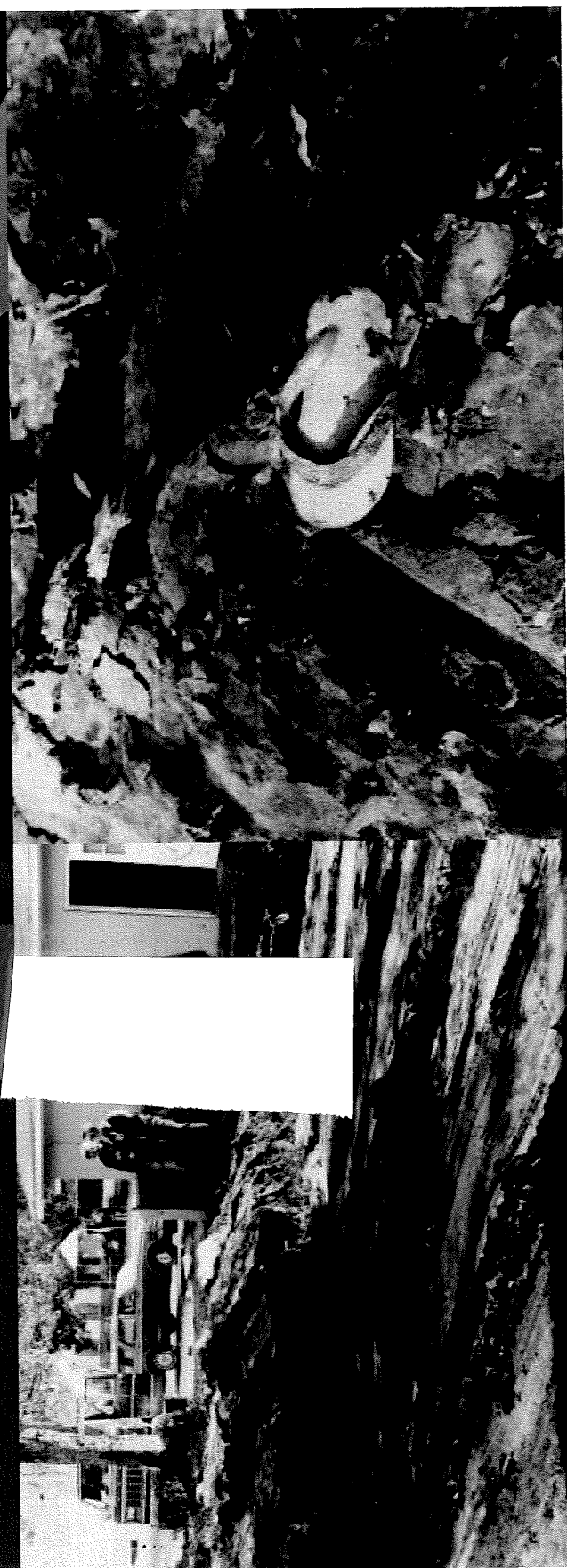
- Toole refers to a bayonet as the weapon used to dismember the child .
- Toole stated that he drove a 1971 black over white Cadillac to facilitate the abduction/murder.

Adam Walsh

- Toole describes that he entices the child into his vehicle and drives with him north on the turnpike.
- Toole describes a dirt road, he pulls off of where he cuts the child's head off.

Adam Walsh

- Toole tells Detectives that he returned the murder weapon to his mother's house in Jacksonville.



Adam Walsh

- Toole says he places the head in vehicle on floorboard in front and rear.



Adam Walsh

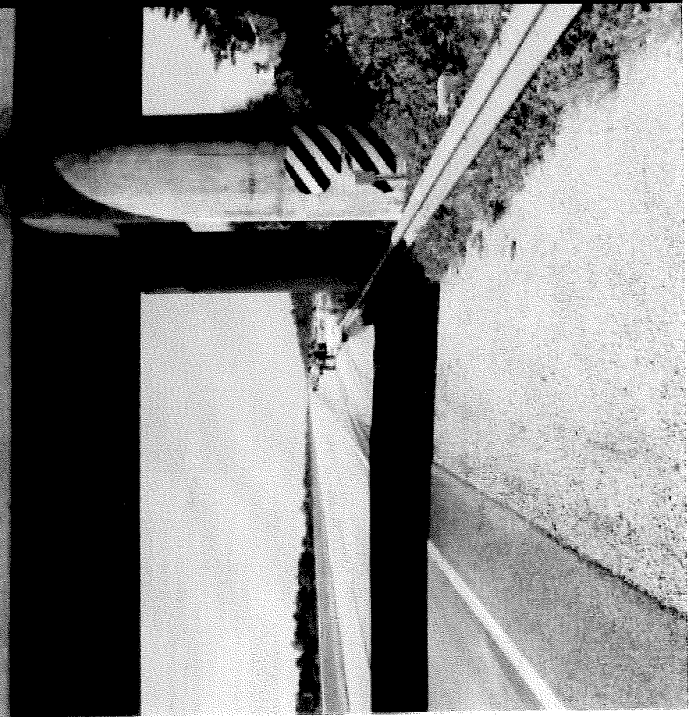
- Toole says he drives an unknown distance north on the highway and discards the head into the canal before returning back to Jacksonville.



Adam Walsh

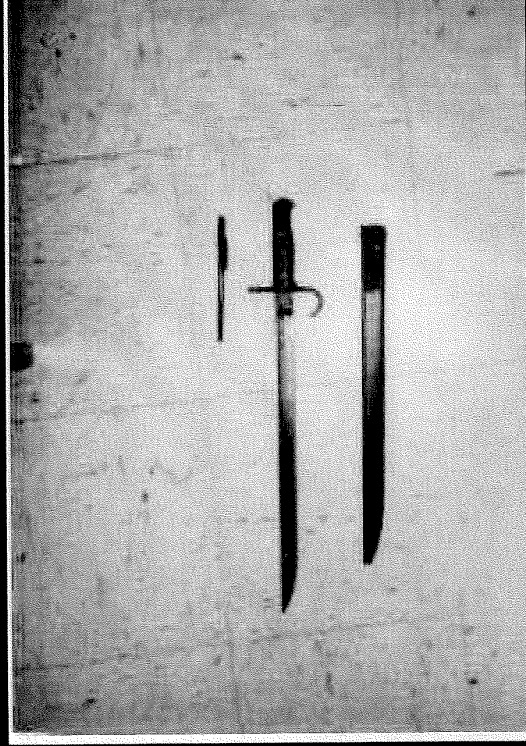
- The rest of the body is discarded in the area of the dirt road.

Radebaugh Rd.



Adam Walsh

- Detectives locate an associate of Toole's who recalled lending Toole a bayonet prior to the murder.



Adam Walsh

- The 1971 Cadillac Toole claims to have used is located in a Jacksonville car lot.



Adam Walsh

- A machete and green canvas sheath are recovered as well.



Adam Walsh

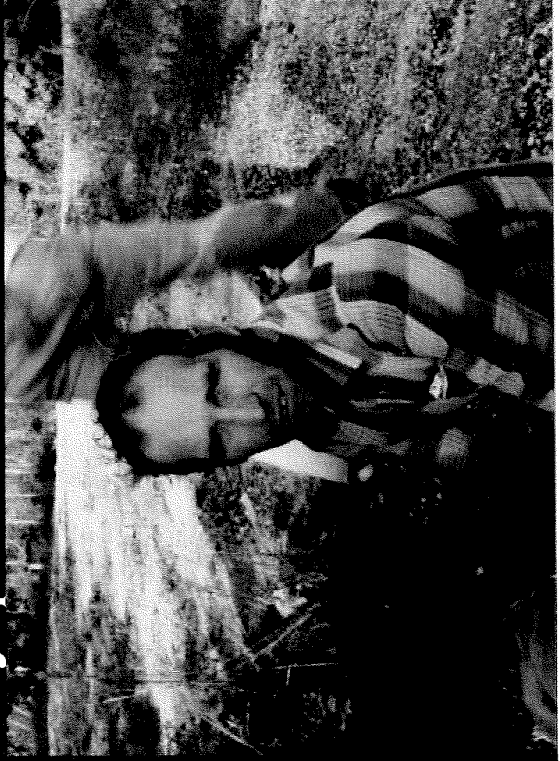
- F.D.L.E. examines floorboard, carpeting and canvas sheath for presence of blood
- Tests are positive.

Adam Walsh

- On October 21, Toole is flown to Hollywood. Toole is first driven by the Sears stores in Plantation and Fort Lauderdale before being driven to the Sears at the Hollywood Mall.
- According to Detectives accompanying Toole, he refers to the Hollywood store as the store where the abduction occurs.

Adam Walsh

- Toole is driven from the Sears store at his direction onto the Turnpike northbound. Toole describes the dirt road fairly accurately prior to arrival there.

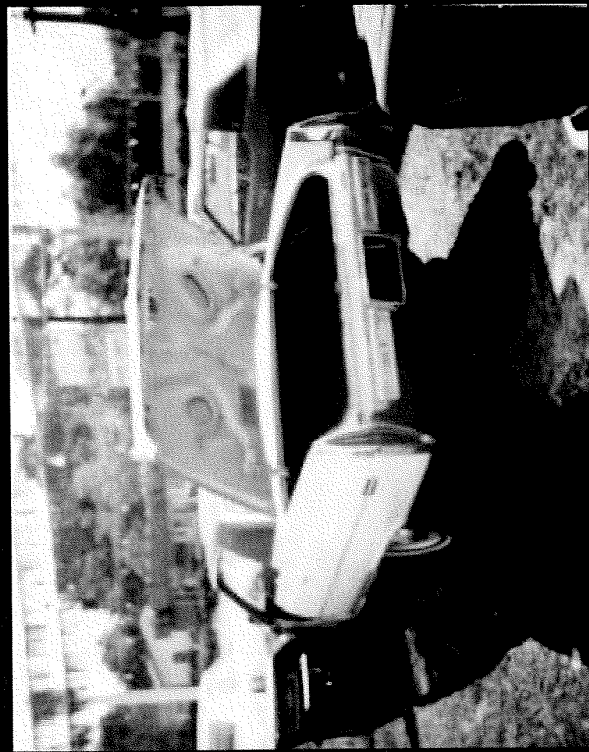


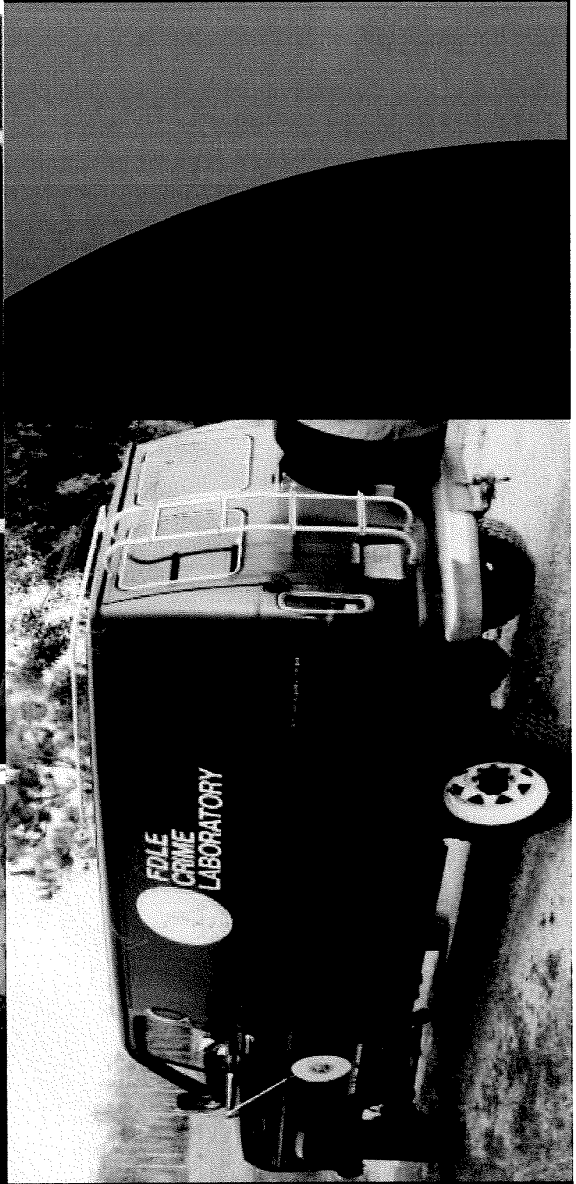
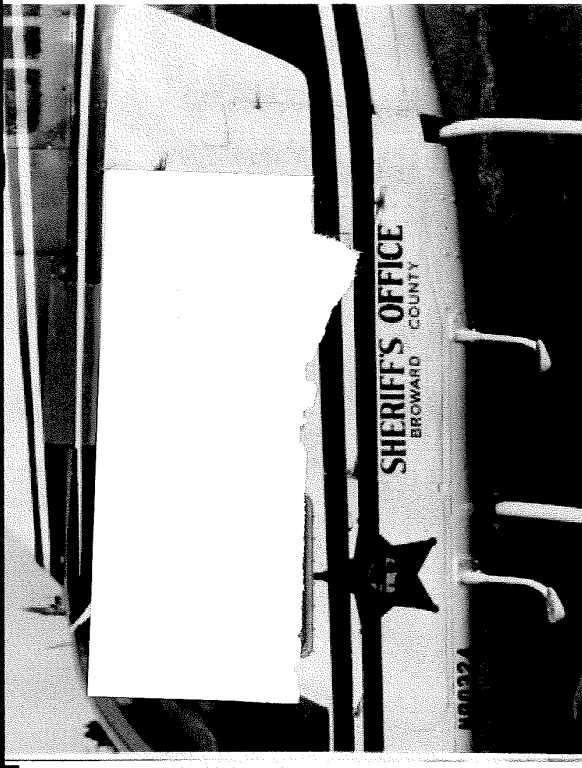
Adam Walsh

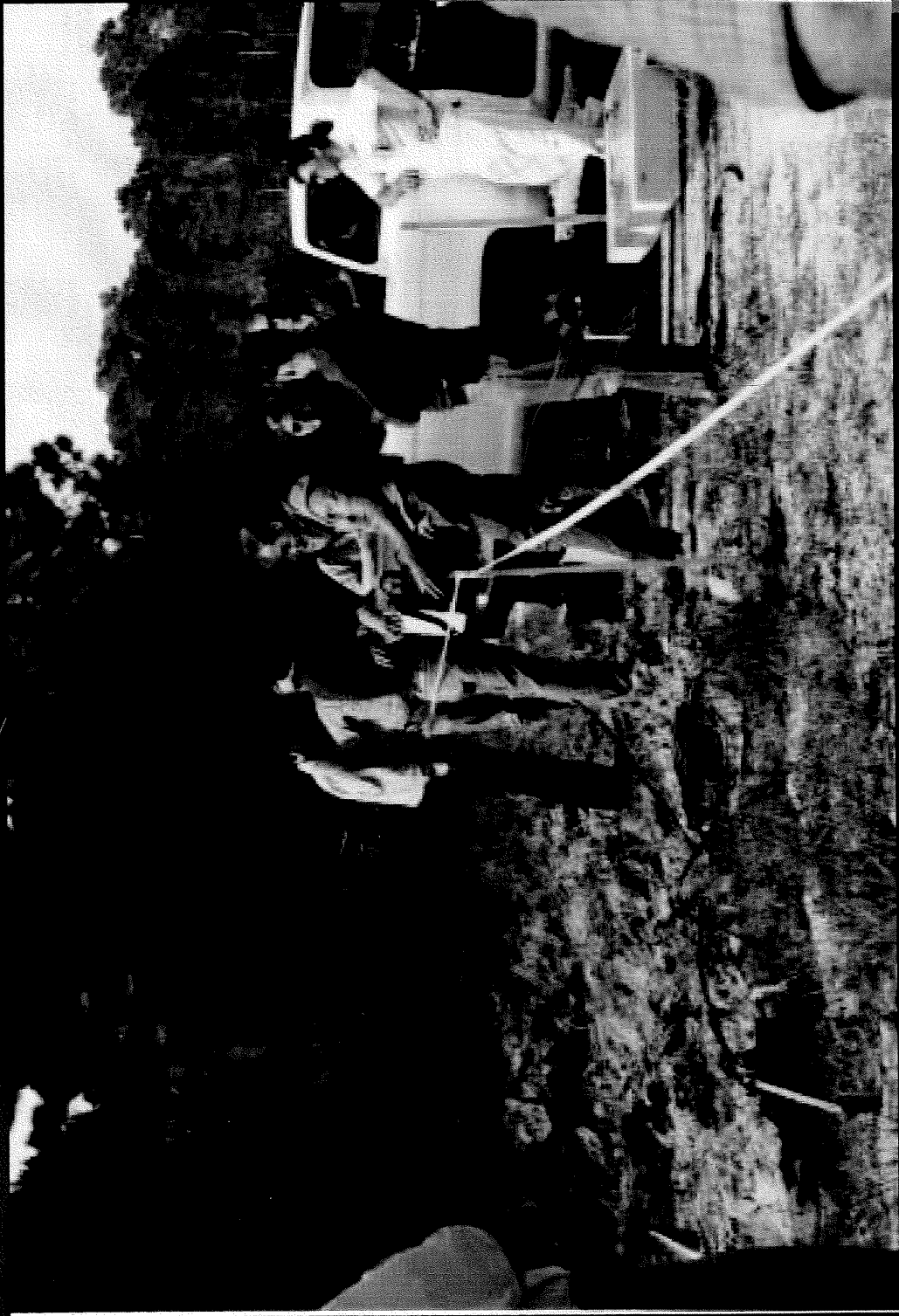
- I am assured by Detectives that no information was given to Toole prior to this.
- The only unknown according to Detectives is Jacksonville Detective Terry.
- It is known that Toole was shown a picture of the canal and bridge where the head of Adam was found.

Adam Walsh

- When the Cadillac is recovered in Jacksonville, no trunk liner was found.









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Adam Walsh

- Toole provides other confessions with differing versions.
- One saying the the body was taken back to Jacksonville, wrapped in the trunk liner of the Cadillac and burned in an old abandoned refrigerator on his mother's property.

Adam Walsh

- Toole later recants, confesses again, and again recants.
- Hollywood Police Chief makes announcement to media that Toole will be arrested for this crime.
- Case is discussed with the State Attorney's Office who decides there is insufficient evidence to arrest Toole.
- Case remains unsolved.

Adam Walsh

- August 1991, Hollywood Sun-Tattler article of the 10 year anniversary of the abduction with Hollywood Police Major announcing that the case is still unsolved and that Toole was eliminated as suspect.

Adam Walsh

- This article generates a call from a William Mistler who states that he saw Toole abduct the child and get into a black over white Cadillac.
- August 1994, case is re-assigned for re-investigation.
- File reviewed in its entirety.

Adam Walsh

- Evidence reviewed specifically for DNA testing.
- FHP radio logs for the turnpike reviewed for traffic stops, field contacts, etc.
- Records reveal that floorboard carpet, of the 1971 Cadillac was cut into 7 pieces with 1 standard and delivered to F.D.L.E. lab in Tallahassee.
- Confirmed presence of blood.

Adam Walsh

- No further analysis could be conducted.
- We did not have a blood sample of Adam to compare.
- Unknown blood type of victim as well.

Adam Walsh

- Evidence in custody of Hollywood Police:
- Green canvas sheath and machete.
- Tape from machete handle.
- Bayonet recovered from Toole's sister in 1988.
- Carpet standard.
- Hair sample of Adam.
- Articles of clothing recovered from Toole's property.

Adam Walsh

- Records revealed that the bloody carpet samples were returned to the custody of the Jacksonville Police department on May 24, 1984 into the custody of detective Terry or Geisenberg.
- November 1994, traveled to Jacksonville Police Department, Jacksonville F.D.L.E., and Tallahassee F.D.L.E. in hopes of locating bloody carpet.

Adam Walsh

- Other items signed out and delivered to Genetic Design Lab in Greensboro, N.C.
- Test revealed no presence of blood, including carpet standard.
- All blood possibly consumed during previous testing.

Adam Walsh

- Vehicle queried and found registered to an individual in St. Augustine area.
- Last activity in 1987.
- Interest was in the trunk where Toole stated in one of his statements the body was wrapped in trunk liner.

Adam Walsh

- April 1995, located registered owner who stated that he junked the vehicle in a Jacksonville junkyard in 1985.
- Body file search was conducted unable to locate vehicle.

Adam Walsh

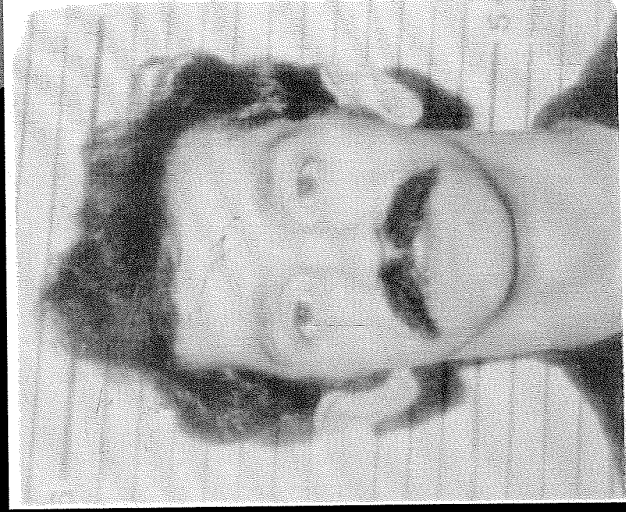
- June 1995 interviewed Toole for the first time at Florida State Prison.
- Two inmates were located who had information about Toole, [REDACTED] and Gerald Schaefer.

Adam Walsh

- Shafer, ex-Police Officer from Martin County serving life for 1993 double murder.
- Originally surfaced in 1988.
- [REDACTED] and Schaefer said Toole confessed to them.
- Schaefer agreed to assist me in attempting to gain information from Toole in prison.
- Schaefer later killed in prison.

Adam Walsh

- Persons of interest develop: Edward James, James Campbell and Larry Leon Waldo, Kenneth LeClair, and Dennis Lancaster.



Adam Walsh

- November 1995 made contact with Mr. James at his residence in central Florida.
- James provided a C.V.S.A. and he passed.
- Traveled to Jacksonville to do background on Waldo, and found out that he died in 1990.

Adam Walsh

- In 1983 Waldo provided a statement to detectives about his association with Toole.
- Date unknown but he says he moved into the same rooming house after he left a mental hospital in Jacksonville. Possibly in November 1981.

Adam Walsh

- When this statement was taken, Waldo was living at 1608 N. 27th Avenue in Hollywood, Florida.
- This address is one block from the Walsh residence.
- Questioning of Waldo in 1983, only dealt with his association with Toole.

Adam Walsh

- Not with any possibility of him knowing the family.
- Waldo record- Begins in 1982 in St. Johns County and ends in February 1985 in Duval County.

Adam Walsh

- Re-interviewed Charles Hardeman, M.E., reports that of all the weapons recovered, the bayonet is the closest to the murder weapon.
- Hardeman accurately described bayonet and sheath in our custody.
- Traveled to Fruitland Park, Florida in attempts to locate LeClair.

Adam Walsh

- Boardman, Ohio Police said LeClair was a suspect in a similar case in Ohio in the early '70's.
- Drivers License listed Fruitland Park as LeClair's last known address.
- Discovered he didn't live there any longer.
- Local Police had no contact with LeClair.

Adam Walsh

- Traveled to Indian River, St. Lucie, Brevard and Okeechobee Counties to review microfilm of newspaper stories in 1981.

Adam Walsh

- June 1995 received a statement from Michael Monahan, son of John Monahan.



Adam Walsh

- Monahan agreed to polygraph and passed.
- Also received a Statement from Christina Fehlhaber.
- Christina Fehlhaber, was the girlfriend of Monahan at the time of the abduction.

Adam Walsh

- Alabama newspaper reporter became incensed with the case.
- Believed police were hiding facts because of relationship with Monahans.
- Believed that Michael Monahan killed Adam for Campbell because they were close friends.

Adam Walsh

- Claimed Police cover-up
- Wanted polygraph results and was denied.
- Media frenzy begins to generate over release of the file when a lawyer representing reporter files suit in Broward County to have the entire case file opened to the public.

Adam Walsh

Paper sues police

5/11/85
SS

A newspaper in Mobile, Ala., is suing the Hollywood Police Department to release the files on the unsolved murder of Adam Walsh, the little boy who was abducted from a Sears department store and murdered 14 years ago.

The *Mobile Press Register* filed suit in Broward Circuit Court last Friday after twice being denied access to the records, which the Police Department contends are exempt from public scrutiny because the case is "on-going."

Adam Walsh, 6, was abducted from the Sears on July 27, 1981, when his mother wasn't looking. Two weeks later, on Aug. 10, 1981, Adam's severed head was found by two fishermen in a canal 120 miles away, near Vero Beach. No one has ever been charged in the case.

LOCAL EXTRA

Police keep quiet on Walsh case

Department lawyer asks reporters to not interfere with investigation

By DONNA PAZDERA
Staff writer

HOLLYWOOD — The latest suspect in the 1991 disappearance of 6-year-old Adam Walsh could help police solve the murder case.

But police on Tuesday would only offer clues that seemed more like riddles toward the identity of a suspect in the murder of Adam, who disappeared from a shopping center across the street from the Hollywood Police Department Adam on July 27, 1981.

The boy's severed head was discovered by two fishermen two weeks later in a canal near Vero Beach, 120 miles from where he disappeared. Adam's body was never found and no one has ever been charged in the murder.

Police now believe more than one person is responsible for the killing, said Joel Cantor, attorney for the Hollywood Police Department. The new suspect is someone who has been mentioned in the past, but never interviewed, he said.

The attorney said he hopes that once the new suspect is interviewed, "We can bring [the investigation] to fruition in

the near future."

"There is new information and there is a suspect, the suspect is a stranger," said Adam's father John Walsh, who hosts the television show *America's Most Wanted*. The show uses national television publicity to solve crimes.

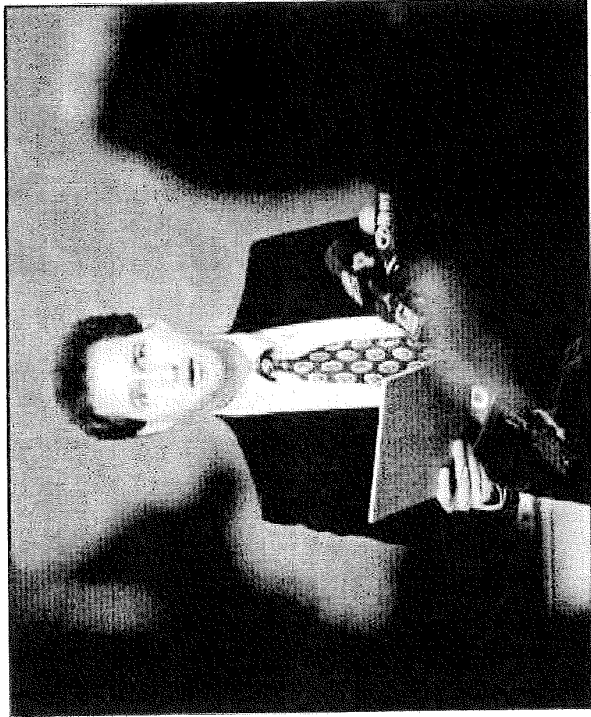
Police called a news conference in response to news reports that the court files in the case would remain closed.

The *Sun-Sentinel* and the *Palm Beach Post* joined the *Mobile Press Register* in a suit to open court records in the 14-year-old murder case. On Monday, Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe refused to open the files, saying it could jeopardize the police investigation.

The latest suspect came to the attention of lead detective Mark Smith during the last 10 months as he reviewed the case. Smith, a 15-year veteran of the department, was assigned to the Walsh investigation last August. No interview date for the potential suspect was disclosed.

During the last 14 years, investigators have interviewed hundreds of potential suspects and witnesses in the case.

In fact, Cantor said on Tuesday, serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was interviewed in a Wisconsin prison before he was slain by a fellow inmate earlier this year. Dahmer, who lived in Miami Beach for part of 1981, was ruled out



Staff photo/ROBERT MAYER

Joel Cantor, attorney for the Hollywood Police Department, fields questions concerning new developments in Adam Walsh's murder as a viable suspect, Cantor said.

At Tuesday's news conference, Cantor pleaded with reporters to let police investigate without interference, saying, "We're concerned that this type of investigative reporting would impede our investigation."

Added Cantor: "Please don't force us to compromise our investigation. We feel we'll be able to solve this case."

We all want to catch the individual responsible for this horrible crime."

John Walsh released a videotaped statement after Cantor confirmed detectives were planning to interview the new suspect.

"We have always prayed that Adam's killer would be caught and brought to justice because I believe my family and I need that closure," Walsh said.

Sun-Sentinel

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EDITORIALS

Time is right to open police files on Adam Walsh disappearance

From the beginning, the Adam Walsh case has been plagued by unanswered questions and public suspicions about what really happened, how and how well the police investigation was conducted, what evidence has been obtained, what leads have been followed, who has been abandoned and who possibly still lives.

Six-year-old Adam disappeared from a Hollywood mall on July 27, 1981. Two weeks later, his severed head was found in a canal 130 miles away, near Vero Beach. His body was never found, and no one has ever been charged.

The case became one of America's best-known and most notorious incidents of child kidnapping and murder. Adam's father, John Walsh, has since made lawmakers and the public aware of the case and worked to persuade Congress to toughen laws against child kidnapping and murder. John Walsh has since become host of the TV show, "America's Most Wanted," which encourages viewers to catch criminals.

Questions over the unsolved case have been fueled by the Hollywood Police Department's refusal to comply with newspaper requests under the Public Records Law to open the investigative file for viewing and copying.

On Monday, Broward County Circuit Court Judge Letoy Blue allowed Hollywood police to keep the file confidential for now, while

The case became one of America's best-known and most notorious incidents of child kidnapping and murder.

detectives pursue what they claim are new leads, and unless the police can produce a premature disclosure of the case file could hurt the ongoing investigation.

Judge Blue said newspapers could refile their legal request for full disclosure in several weeks, after detectives question the suspect and the police file is made available. The suit, filed by the Sun-Sentinel and The Palm Beach Post.

Unless the detectives can make an arrest, persuade the judge that an arrest or indictment is imminent or that the investigation is about to be completed, the police's investigative file should be opened for press and public inspection.

Florida's 1983 Public Records Act was designed to maximize the kinds of records open to the public and minimize those that are kept secret. The act legitimately prevents the release of information of a confidential and investigative nature.

But the law does not provide a broad exemption for all police investigative files on unsolved crimes. It only permits such records to be kept secret if the investigation information and a reasonable, good faith prediction of the future of the case are not in the foreseeable future.

Fourteen years of secrecy is long enough. It's about time to open the Adam Walsh files.



Adam Walsh

Prosecutor: Keep Walsh files shut

By RONNIE GREENE
Herald Staff Writer

Four days before secret files detailing the hunt for Adam Walsh's killer were to open for public view, the Broward State Attorney's Office on Monday filed a last-minute request to keep the record sealed.

Joining forces with Hollywood Police and Adam's parents, John and Reva Walsh, prosecutors contend release of the 10,000 page file would be premature and potentially hinder the criminal investigation.

"Mr. and Mrs. Walsh are extremely gratified by the Broward County State's Attorney's decision," family lawyer George Terwilliger III said Monday.

"The Walshes agree with the prosecutors that unsealing the file now could foreclose forever the possible prosecution of

copy of its 10,000-page file to the State Attorney's Office. Prosecutors had not combed through the complete file before.

"All I can tell you is we're reviewing it," Broward State Attorney Michael Satz said Monday. "If I gave you a book to read, wouldn't you want to read the book before you tell me what it's about?"

From the motion by Ralph Kay Jr., Satz's Chief Assistant State Attorney:

"The release and dissemination of the contents of this investigative file to the public and/or media at this time would be premature and may negatively affect and prejudice the on-going criminal investigation."

State Attorney Satz said John Walsh paid his office a visit recently to talk about

PLEASE SEE WALSH, B3

The Broward State Attorney's Office, backed by Adam Walsh's parents, insist that opening the long-secret files could destroy any chance of ever solving the crime.

anyone responsible for this heinous crime."

Under orders from Broward Circuit Judge Leroy Moe, Hollywood Police had been scheduled to open the files to the media at 1 p.m. Friday. Moe ordered them opened last year after several newspapers. The Herald included filed suit.

Media lawyer Thomas Tulin's argument: With no arrest after nearly 15 years, there's no reason to keep the witness statements and list of suspects under wraps.

On Jan. 26, Hollywood Police took a

Julian argued the publicity could trigger new leads and help crack the case.

Further, he argued, the records may reveal whether Hollywood Police fumbled the investigation.

Now, Judge Moe has set an emergency hearing for 10 a.m. Thursday to weigh prosecutors' request.

The State Attorney's Office entered the public records lawsuit four months after Moe's initial order to unseal them.

Walsh parents fear opening files will abort investigation

WALSH, FROM 1B

the files. "I think Mr. Walsh has a big concern," Satz said. "He wanted once and for all to have this case solved. And he doesn't want to see anything happen that would jeopardize the effective prosecution."

Police and prosecutors say their main fear is that, by releasing the records, crucial details known only to the killer could become public knowledge.

"There are definitely portions of that file that should not be let loose," said Paul Dungan, administrative assistant to Hollywood Police Chief Richard Witt.

"This case is like putting a jigsaw puzzle together," Dungan added. "Right now, there's a lot of missing pieces. Some of those pieces will never be found. But sometimes, like with a jigsaw

puzzle, even with pieces missing you can tell what the picture is.

Adam, 6, was snatched from the Sears at Hollywood Mall July 27, 1981, as his mother, Reve, said she left him to play a video game as she went shopping for a lamp. Two weeks later, the child's head was recovered in a canal 12.5 miles north of Hollywood.

His body was never found. Suspects have emerged over the years, but no arrests.

Last week, John Walsh issued a statement to The Herald.

"We continue to pray that police and prosecutors have the opportunity to investigate all leads in Adam's case. . . . The police and prosecutors' responsibility to identify and bring to justice the person who committed that crime should take precedence over anything else."

Adam Walsh

- September 1995 located the security in central Florida. She believes now that it was Adam who she escorted from store shortly after she got to work at noon.
- Located other employees not previously interviewed who recalled seeing Reve Walsh and a young child in store.

Adam Walsh

- October 1995 presented case to the Child Abduction Serial Killer Unit in Quantico, Virginia. Due to the media frenzy, the results will remain in their custody.
- Also spoke to witness previously not known. Says she was in the Sears store the day of the abduction.

Adam Walsh

- Says she observed Reve Walsh enter the store and observed a suspicious looking man (not fitting the description of Toole) standing near the catalog department, speaking to an employee of Sears.
- It appeared the he knew the employee.
- Employee described closely fits the description of Lancaster.

Adam Walsh

- Lancaster history-
- Forgery in 1979.
- Soliciting lewd acts in 1982.
- Soliciting lewd acts in 1967 Phoenix.
- Soliciting lewd acts in 1972 New York.

Adam Walsh

- January 1996, Broward State Attorney's Office joins the fight to keep file closed.
- February 1996, judge orders file to be released to the media. Unprecedented.
- April 1996, traveled to Wilburton, Oklahoma to interview Lancaster.

Adam Walsh

- Lancaster denied any knowledge and denied being an employee at Sears in 1981.
- No deception noted.
- April 1996 received information from F.D.L.E. regarding an individual who possessed information on the murder. Without contacting the Hollywood Police, F.D.L.E. agents traveled to Orlando to conduct interview.

Adam Walsh

- F.D.L.E. involvement is leaked to the media where national news in New York proclaims a break in the case by the leading Law Enforcement Agency in the State of Florida.
- After the leak, F.D.L.E. agents inform us of their investigation.

Adam Walsh

- This investigation was generated by the same Alabama reporter who initiated lawsuit.
- Traveled to Orlando to investigate, and determine that all claims were bogus.
- Toole, who is now gravely ill, is re-interviewed for the last time.

Adam Walsh

- Instructions left with Florida State Prison to contact me when Toole is on his death bed.
- America's Most Wanted last show discussed the Adam Walsh case.
- After the show, a caller states that Toole died weeks previous in prison.
- Traveled to prison to locate witnesses to a possible death bed confession.

Adam Walsh

- Other people came forward stating that they observed Toole in the Sears store.
- Others are re-interviewed to clarify previous statements.
- This included a re-interview with Bobby Lee Jones who provided a statement in 1983 about his association with Toole.

Adam Walsh

- Jones reiterated that Toole confessed to him and provided certain details about Hollywood.
- In January 1997, a last attempt was made to gather evidence. All weapons collected were brought to the University of Florida Human Identification Laboratory.

Adam Walsh

- Issues dealing with prosecution of the case:
- Lack of physical evidence.
- Contradictory confession(s).
- Lack of credible witnesses to abduction.
- Toole's picture was published in the media.