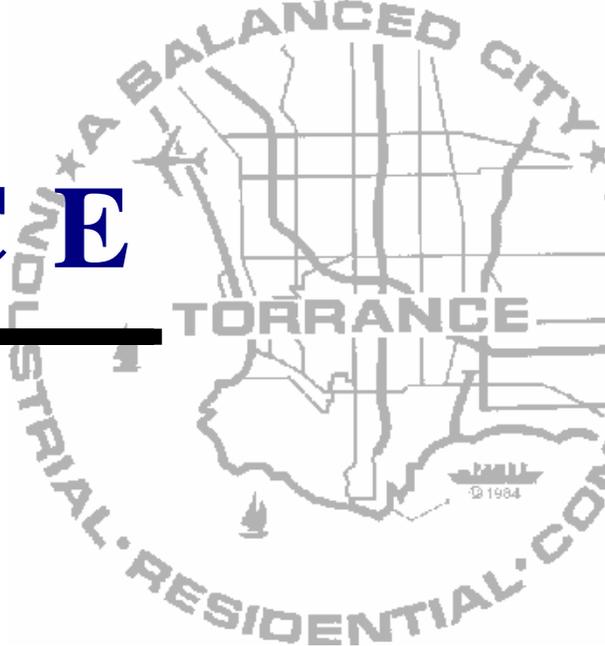


# T O R R A N C E

The seal of the Torrance Police Department is visible in the background on the right side of the page. It features a circular design with the words "A BALANCED CITY" at the top and "INDUSTRIAL • RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL" at the bottom. In the center, there is a map of the city of Torrance with the word "TORRANCE" written across it. The year "1904" is also present at the bottom of the seal.

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*Press Release*  
*Police Department*

## **22-year-old Cold Case Murder Solved** **March 6, 2013**

On September 8, 1990, Luis Herrera was murdered in the City of Los Angeles and his body was dumped in a trash bin in Venice, California. An autopsy was conducted by the Los Angeles Coroners Department and it was determined that Mr. Herrera was strangled to death. Detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department diligently worked this case for over one year as they followed several leads and investigated several possible persons of interest. Unfortunately, all possible leads ran dry and the case was suspended and re-classified as a "cold case homicide."

Prior to suspending the case, LAPD Detectives recovered DNA evidence from the murder scene which they suspected belonged to the suspect and that sample was entered into the state and national DNA base (CODIS: Combined DNA Index System). No hits returned from the sample and the evidence remained on file in each respective database in case a match is later discovered.

In April of 2012, Detective Sergeant Scott Turrentine of the Torrance Police Department was reviewing a list of all Torrance cases involving DNA samples that have been collected when he came across a blood sample belonging to Kevin Kemp. Kemp was a suspect in a 1990 Torrance attempt kidnap case when he tried to kidnap a female in front of her residence in the early morning hours of September 30, 1990. The victim was able to retrieve a handgun from her purse during the kidnapping and shot and killed Kemp as he placed a canvas strap around her neck and tried to pull her into the street. Since Kemp was positively identified as the lone suspect and now deceased, he was never convicted of the crime so his DNA sample was never automatically entered into any database.

Due to the severe and violent nature of the case, Sergeant Turrentine believed that Kemp was possibly involved in other similar crimes so he contacted Senior Criminalist John Bockrath of the Los Angeles County Department Scientific Services Bureau.

Utilizing Bockrath and the many resources from his office, coupled with the help from the Los Angeles County Coroners Office and Department of Justice, Kemp's DNA was placed into CODIS under the Known Suspect Index and on January 9, 2013, a match was obtained showing Kemp as the suspect in the 1990 murder of Luis Herrera as it was his DNA that was left at the location.

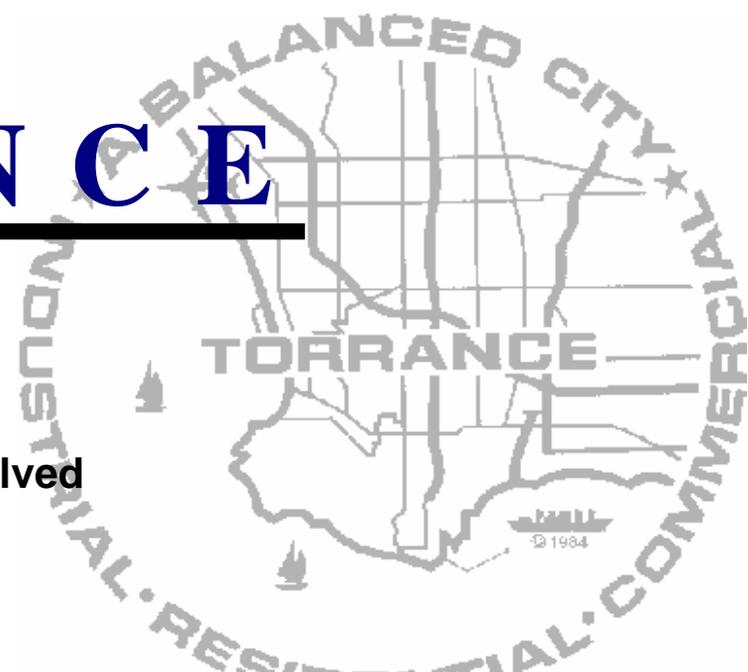
Page 1 of 2

# T O R R A N C E

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*Press Release*  
*Police Department*

**22-year-old Cold Case Murder Solved**  
**March 6, 2013**



“Submitting DNA samples from known suspects into the Known Suspect Index is a great tool and we wish more investigators would use this resource,” said Steve Renteria, CODIS Administrator for the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department.

Known Suspect Index lets investigators enter a known suspect’s DNA profile into CODIS prior to any felony arrest or conviction and the sample remains in the database for two years. Currently, there are over 1,000 known suspects in the California CODIS Known Suspect Index.

The closure of this 22-year-old cold case would not have been possible without the Known Suspect Index and the relentless work and keen investigative sense by Sergeant Scott Turrentine of the Torrance Police Department.

Sergeant Robert J. Watt  
Torrance Police Department Public Information Officer  
(310) 618-5688  
[rwatt@torranceca.gov](mailto:rwatt@torranceca.gov)

Page 2 of 2

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