20/20' CO-ANCHOR DAVID MUIR INVESTIGATES HOW CUTTING-EDGE FORENSIC DNA TECHNOLOGY HAS LED TO LONG-AWAITED JUSTICE IN TWO MURDER CASES THAT REMAINED UNSOLVED FOR DECADES IN AN ALL-NEW EPISODE, AIRING FRIDAY, MARCH 7, ON ABC AND STREAMING NEXT DAY ON HULU



ABC News*[/caption] "20/20" co-anchor David Muir reports on the murders of two young women each unsolved for decades — and how they are linked by cutting-edge forensic DNA technology that cracked open the cases and led to long-awaited justice. This all-new episode of "20/20" airs on FRIDAY, MARCH 7 (9:01-11:00 p.m. EST), on ABC and streams the next day on Hulu. In 1988, 19-year-old Cathy Swartz was a young mother living with her fiancé, Mike Warner, and her 9-monthold baby, Courteney, in Michigan. One afternoon, Mike returned to their home to find Cathy dead in the couple's bedroom. She had been strangled with her throat cut in multiple places. Cathy's killer left behind a bloody fingerprint, and even though law enforcement officials ran thousands of prints and tested DNA evidence, they never found a match to the evidence left at the scene. Detectives worked the case for several decades without identifying a suspect. A few years later, 31-year-old beloved Texas schoolteacher Catherine Edwards failed to show up for lunch plans with her parents and identical twin sister, Allison. When Catherine's parents visited her home, they found a chilling scene. Catherine was dead on her bathroom floor with her hands handcuffed behind her back. When the police could not find a match in the national DNA database for the killer's DNA left on a bedspread, the investigation soon went cold. Now, more than three decades later, law enforcement agents on both cases independently partnered with Othram, a private, state-of-the-art forensic lab, seeking their help in solving these cold cases. Muir reports from just north of Houston, Texas, to exclusively interview its owners, scientists David and Kristin Mittelman, as well as Courteney Swartz; Jennifer Outman, a friend of Cathy Swartz; Michael Hardy, senior writer for Texas Monthly; investigators Sam Smallcombe, Todd Peterson and Aaron and Tina Lewallen; and retired Texas Ranger Brandon Bess. Based just north of Houston, Othram is solely focused on partnering with law enforcement on cold case investigations using DNA technology to help crack seemingly unsolvable cases, including current high-profile cases like Gilgo Beach and Iowa college student murders. ABC News' "20/20" is an award-winning primetime program anchored by David Muir and Deborah Roberts. A proven leader as a long-form newsmagazine for over 45 years, "20/20" features unforgettable, character-driven true-crime mysteries, exclusive newsmaker interviews, hard-hitting investigative reports, and in-depth coverage of high-profile stories. Janice Johnston is the executive producer. The two-hour "20/20" events air Fridays from 9:01-11:00 p.m. ET on ABC and are available to stream on ABC News digital platforms and Hulu. *COPYRIGHT ©2025 Disney Enterprises, Inc. All photography is copyrighted material and is for editorial use only. Images are not caption to = attachment 1331919 align=aligncenter width= 1024 to be archived, altered, duplicated, resold, retransmitted, or used for any other purposes without written permission of ABC. Images are distributed to the press to publicize current programming. Any other usage must be licensed. ABC News Media Relations Bridgette Maney bridgette@bridgepr.net For more information, follow ABC News PR on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.