

SUSPECTED I-75 SLAYER MAKES DEAL FOR MOVIE

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OCALA, Fla. -- Even before she was charged, a former Troy woman who is a suspect in the deaths of seven men along Interstate 75 in Florida reached an agreement with a California movie producer that gives exclusive rights to her life story.

Jackelyn Giroux, president of a production firm that carries her name in Studio City, said she spent nearly three hours talking with **Aileen (Lee) Wuornos** several days before Jan. 17, when she was charged with murder.

Wuornos, 34, has been charged in two of the seven deaths of middle-aged men in north-central Florida in the last 13 months. When the discussion with Giroux took place, **Wuornos** was in police custody, arrested on charges unrelated to the murders.

"She just wants to have her life story told the way she wants it told," Giroux said.

Wuornos attended Troy High School until after her freshman year in 1971, when, Troy school officials believe, she moved with her family to Florida.

Giroux said the agreement involves rights to a possible TV miniseries or feature film; she would not divulge further details. If **Wuornos** is convicted, she cannot profit from the crime under Florida law.

On Friday, **Wuornos** pleaded not guilty to fatally shooting Richard Mallory, 51, of Clearwater. She was then whisked to Marion County, where she was charged with killing Charles Richard Humphreys, 57, of Crystal River.

In an affidavit made public Monday, **Wuornos** admitted shooting Humphreys seven times. According to a separate arrest affidavit, **Wuornos** earlier told authorities she killed Mallory.

The culprit is believed to have used Ocala as a base for the crimes, roaming Marion County posing as a hitchhiker, a prostitute or a motorist in distress.

Authorities investigating the slayings had been tailing **Wuornos** for several days in early January. Worried that they would lose her, police on Jan. 9 arrested her in Daytona Beach on four-year-old Volusia County grand theft and weapons charges.

Wuornos was aware she was the prime suspect in the so-called I-75 murders when she had her attorney contact Giroux, authorities say.

This is how **Wuornos** came to obtain Giroux's name: Giroux's mother, who lives east of Ocala, found herself standing in a store checkout line next to a woman who strongly resembled a composite sketch of a murder suspect circulated by police.

Knowing her daughter's interest in the case, Giroux's mother calmly handed the woman Giroux's business card and said, " 'My daughter would like to talk to you about your story,' " Giroux said.

Next, Giroux's mother called the Marion County Sheriff's Department to report the sighting.

Giroux said that shortly after **Wuornos** was arrested, a lawyer called her saying **Wuornos** wanted to talk to her. Soon afterward, they worked out a deal.

Wuornos ' attorney in Ocala, Tricia Jenkins, confirmed the deal.

Giroux said most of her conversations with **Wuornos** have been about her troubled past.

Wuornos is in the Marion County Jail.

Caption: Photo; Map DOMINIC TRUPIANO

: **AileenWuornos** ***

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