

After 2 years, no arrests in girl's killing

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By Oralandar Brand-WilliamsThe Detroit News

DETROIT — Two years have passed since the charred remains of **Raven Jeffries** were found in a remote area of Romulus, and police still have no new leads in finding her killer.

Raven, 7, was last seen riding her bicycle just after dusk on Aug. 4, 2006, a few doors from her family's home in the 6500 block of McDonald Street on the city's southwest side.

Three days later her body, burned beyond recognition, was found in a field near Henry Ruff and Ecorse roads.

Police would not say whether **Raven** was sexually assaulted.

Since **Raven**'s murder, police say they have pursued 200 tips in the case, but have had no success in finding her killer.

"We have nothing new," said Joshua Monte of the Romulus Police Department, the head investigator on the **Jeffries** case. "It's sickening to just know that the person is still out there."

Monte said he does not believe **Raven** was murdered by a stranger. It probably was someone who was "familiar with her neighborhood," he said.

Monte said he is working on a tip he received last month from the national television show "America's Most Wanted."

The show has aired several other segments about the case. Billboards seeking new information have been placed on local freeways in the past year.

Raven's mother, Brenda **Jeffries**, feels she "pretty much" knows who killed her child, but she won't say who because she doesn't want to damage the police investigation.

On Friday, **Jeffries** looked among the marigolds and the ceramic angels that adorn the small memorial park built in **Raven**'s memory and spoke about the loneliness she's continually felt since **Raven**'s death.

"It's really hard for me," she said. "I really don't have too many people who support me."

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call the Romulus Police Department at (734) 941-8400 or Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAKUP.

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