


GENERAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM 19-123

TO: ALL DISTRICT ATTORNEY PERSONNEL

FROM: JACKIE LACEY 
District Attorney

SUBJECT: NEW COLD CASE UNIT

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2019

I am pleased to announce the reestablishment of the Cold Case Unit (CCU). With recent advances in forensic science and the application of novel forensic investigatory techniques, many decades-old cold cases are capable of being solved. As such, the District Attorney's Office expects an increase in the number of requests from law enforcement for assistance with the investigation and subsequent filing consideration of previously unsolved cases. Many of these cases will involve complex legal and forensic issues and require a considerable investment of time to ensure a successful outcome. To meet these needs, the CCU will work closely with law enforcement agencies to provide strategic, tactical, forensic, and legal advice to assist in the investigations. Some cases will remain with the Cold Case Unit to be vertically prosecuted, while others will ultimately be assigned to Central, Branch and Area, or Specialized Prosecutions for handling as appropriate.

The CCU will be part of the Major Crimes Division, and staffed by experienced prosecutors with specialized knowledge in cold case prosecutions. These deputies will coordinate and consult with other subject matter expert deputy district attorneys to assist on cases as needed. The CCU will be an important resource for law enforcement and prosecutors alike by helping to solve cold cases and bringing justice to those families who have waited so long for answers.

If you receive a request for assistance on a previously unsolved homicide case, or if such a case is brought to you for filing consideration, please contact Head Deputy Craig Hum or Assistant Head Deputy Habib Balian of the Major Crimes Division.

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