

## Quincy man convicted in 1994 slaying charged in new rape case

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Shawn Kane was released from state prison in 2015 after serving 16 years for a manslaughter conviction in the brutal 1994 killing of 17-year-old Sonia Leal. He had taken a plea deal in the case to admit to manslaughter. Kane was arrested earlier this month on a rape charge in Quincy.

QUINCY - A Quincy man who served 16 years in state prison for the brutal killing of 17-year-old Sonia Leal is behind bars once again after being charged with raping a woman.

Shawn Kane, 42, of 40 Station St., Apt. 1, was arrested in Quincy April 7 and charged with rape and domestic assault and battery. He was ordered to be held without bail following a hearing on April 12.

Kane was released from state prison in 2015 after he pleaded guilty to manslaughter in 1999 in the case of Leal's death.

Leal's body was found on Nov. 20, 1994 in Quincy's Granite Railway quarry. She had been wrapped in a quilt, then weighed down with cement blocks.

As part of a plea bargain agreement reached in October 1999 in Norfolk County Superior Court, Kane pleaded guilty to manslaughter. He originally had been charged with murder.

Kane also admitted to unarmed robbery in connection with the case and was ordered to serve an additional three years in state prison. A rape charge was dismissed.

Kane's accomplices, Kevin Lynch, 34, and Robert Larkin, 24, both of Quincy, were found guilty of murder and rape following separate trials in 1997. They are both serving life sentences without the opportunity for parole. The state Supreme Judicial Court has since upheld their convictions.

A Norfolk County prosecutor said Kane and Larkin drove to Boston's Combat Zone the night of Nov. 10, 1994, to pick up a prostitute. They persuaded Leal to get in their car and returned to Quincy.

They drove to a home on Newbury Street in Quincy that Larkin and Lynch shared. Once inside, they raped and beat her.

After killing her, they hog-tied her body and the next day used rope to tie her to three cinder blocks and dumped her into the quarry. The body landed on a ledge and was later found by a passerby.

As part of his plea bargain, Kane promised to lead authorities to the body of another murdered woman and told police that Lynch and Larkin had killed a woman and dumped her body in the quarry in a separate incident.

During their search of the quarry, authorities did recover the body of a 19-year-old male student from Ireland who had last been seen in the area and was reported missing in June 1994. His discovery was unrelated to the Leal case.

Kane was sentenced to serve 19 to 20 years in prison and was released in 2015, court records state.

On April 7, Quincy police arrested Kane on Station Street after he raped a woman “despite her saying no and trying to stop him,” court records state.

Further information about the incident was unavailable Monday because the police report was impounded by the court.

Due to his criminal history and the nature of the charges, Quincy District Court Judge Mark Coven ordered that Kane be held without bail for up to 120 days while he awaits trial during a hearing on April 12.

Kane is currently being held at the Norfolk County Correctional Center in Dedham. He is due back in court May 12 for a pre-trial conference.



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