



Monday » July
13 » 2009

Convict denied leave to appeal

Karen Kleiss

edmontonjournal.com

Thursday, March 27, 2008

EDMONTON - The Supreme Court of Canada has denied Landon Karas leave to appeal his first-degree murder conviction for the brutal rape and murder of restaurant owner Doreen Bradley.

Karas was 21 years old on July 15, 2002, when Doreen Bradley's body was found half-naked and bloodied on the living room floor of her acreage home near Bonnyville. She had been stabbed more than 30 times and strangled with the strap of her dress.

In November 2005, a jury convicted him of first-degree murder and he was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for 25 years.

"We are disappointed once again, but the resolve just gets stronger," Karas's mother, Bernadette, said today. "I'm not done fighting. Not by a long shot."

Bernadette Karas says she will now seek the assistance of the Canadian Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted, a volunteer group based in Ontario.

During the investigation, police found nothing in Bradley's home to lead them to her killer. A black flatbed truck and a small white car were seen in Bradley's driveway in the hours after her death, but police never identified or located the two vehicles. One witness said a man with long, dark hair was driving the truck. Karas was balding and blond.

However, police found an infinitesimal amount of DNA inside Bradley and set out to find a match.

Police collected DNA from a random group of men in the Bonnyville area. Scientists found two partial matches and told police a male relative of two local men may be linked to the DNA. One of the men was Landon Karas's father. Landon was called in to give a sample of his DNA. He was a match.

The Supreme Court did not give reasons for its decision.

kkleiss@thejournal.canwest.com

© Edmonton Journal 2008

CLOSE WINDOW

Copyright © 2009 CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#) All rights reserved.
CanWest Interactive, a division of [CanWest MediaWorks Publications, Inc.](#) All rights reserved.