



# DenverDA

Mitchell R. Morrissey, District Attorney - Second Judicial District  
201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 801, Denver, CO 80202

Bus. Phone: 720-913-9000  
Fax: 720-913-9035



## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Robert White, Chief of Police

### ***JOINT NEWS RELEASE***

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Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025 or Sonny Jackson, 720-913-6028

### **'97 CRESTMOOR MURDER SOLVED**

The Denver Police Department and the Denver District Attorney's Office announced today that the murder of a woman in Denver's Crestmoor neighborhood in 1997, has been solved. 67-year-old Surle Goldfogel was found brutally murdered in her home on January 25, 1997 by her sister. The crime shocked the neighborhood and surrounding community, and went unsolved until recently.

At a news conference earlier today with Goldfogel's family members, Denver Police Commander Ron Saunier, Detective Troy Bisgard and District Attorney Mitch Morrissey announced that the murder had been solved. **Jonathan Clinton** (dob: 04-10-76) was identified as the man who broke into Goldfogel's home in 1997 and killed her.

Clinton was a known burglar and drug addict who lived in Goldfogel's neighborhood. It appears he had broken into Goldfogel's home while she had been out grocery shopping, and killed her after she surprised him with an unexpected return. He died in 2003 from heroin related complications. His mother is accused of helping him avoid prosecution but won't be charged as the statute of limitation has run. Goldfogel's family released this statement:

18 years is a brutally long time to live with pain and uncertainty. Nearly 7000 sunrises...countless missed weddings, births and holidays each tainted by loss and grief that we couldn't reconcile. The uncertainty was daunting and the senseless brutality unimaginable.

Time and circumstances have erased the chance for real justice. All that's left is any solace and closure that comes with finally knowing the truth. There were those who knew and stayed silent which only served to generate more pain for an already raw and tattered family. Then there were those who did the right thing, came forward and spoke up, and to them we are eternally grateful.

Commander Saunier refused to let this case be buried and forgotten. Detective Bisgard was dogged, tireless and relentless in his pursuit of a case nearly two decades old. Their spirit, tenacity and dedication represent all that was best about Surle and virtues she would have valued and appreciated most. Thank you for not allowing her to be forgotten.