**LIES AND THE LANDFILL- JURY TRIAL OF MICHAEL BLAGG**

The Grand Junction (Colorado) prosecution team will cover the November 13, 2001, disappearance and homicide of 34 year old Jennifer Blagg and her 6 year old daughter, Abby Blagg. The Blagg family resided in Grand Junction, CO. Michael Blagg, husband to Jennifer and father to Abby, initially called 911 during the late afternoon of 11/13/01 reporting that his wife and daughter were missing, and that he could see a large pool of blood on the bed in the master bedroom. Patrol officers responded and investigators immediately became involved. After 7 months of investigation, massive searches of the Grand Valley, and an excavation of the Mesa County landfill, Jennifer Blagg’s remains were located in the landfill. Jennifer was found wrapped in a tent and had suffered a single gunshot wound to the face. A warrant was issued for Michael Blagg’s arrest in June 2002 alleging murder. Abby has never been found.

Michael Blagg was originally convicted of First Degree Murder on April 16, 2004, and was sentenced to life without parole. The conviction was later reversed after defense counsel successfully argued juror misconduct. A new trial was granted in June 2014. The defense conducted a public survey about prejudicial perceptions and opinions of Michael Blagg. A change of venue occurred and the second trial occurred in Golden, CO (Jefferson County), 4 hours away from GJ.

The second trial began in February 2018, nearly 17 years after the crime occurred. The second jury in Jefferson County also found Michael Blagg guilty of First Degree Murder and Abuse of Corpse relating to the death of his wife, Jennifer Blagg. He was also convicted of thefts from his work place that occurred during surveillance following the murder. It was also argued that Michael Blagg had placed the bodies of Jennifer and Abby in the work place dumpster.

The Michael Blagg trial team will review the original investigation that occurred, the in depth multi-faceted forensic analysis (2001-2018), the logistics of the excavation of the Mesa County landfill, alternate suspect investigation, and unique issues associated with the re-trial.