

MEDIA RELEASE

Additional Remains Located in Sara Zghoul Murder Case

May 25, 2021

On January 25, 2018, detectives located the remains of 28-year-old Sara Zghoul in a parked car in the community of Aloha. Ms. Zghoul's death was ruled a homicide, and at the time of the investigation, some of Ms. Zghoul's remains were still unaccounted for.

Detectives identified the suspect in Ms. Zghoul's murder as 35-year-old Jeremiah Johnston of Aloha, who was arrested later that night.

In December 2019, Mr. Johnston pled guilty to first-degree murder, second-degree kidnapping, and first-degree abuse of a corpse related to the murder of Ms. Zghoul. Mr. Johnston was consequently sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole after 65 years, at which time Mr. Johnson will be 101 years of age.

On Wednesday, May 19, 2021, detectives from the Sheriff's Office Violent Crimes Unit located Ms. Zghoul's missing remains, and the Oregon State Medical Examiner's Office positively identified them as Ms. Zghoul.

The lead detective on the case said, "I am happy we were able to reach a complete resolution in this case, and I hope this helps Ms. Zghoul's family obtain some closure in this tragic loss they have had to endure."

Ms. Zghoul's family has asked community members and media to respect their privacy during this difficult time.

Members of the [Violent Crimes Unit](#) are called upon to investigate serious violent crimes such as homicides, suspicious deaths, adult sexual assaults, kidnappings, robberies, extortion, serious assaults, elder abuse, and missing persons.



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