



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**MICHIGAN STATE POLICE**

**State Police Announce Suspect in Roxanne Wood Case Pleaded No Contest**  
*Patrick Wayne Gilham Agreed to Minimum Sentence of 23 Years*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**March 18, 2022**

**BERRIEN COUNTY, MICH.** Patrick Wayne Gilham, 67, of South Bend, Indiana has pleaded no contest to Second Degree Murder for the 1987 murder of Roxanne Wood. Gilham agreed to a minimum sentence of 23 years in prison.

The Michigan State police Niles Post began this murder investigation on February 20, 1987, in Niles Township, MI. On this date, Roxanne Wood was found murdered in her home by her husband Terry Wood. Through the years, the case has remained an active investigation by the Michigan State Police (MSP) Fifth District Cold Case Team and for the last year and a half, MSP detective sergeants John Moore, and Jason Bailey of the Niles Post.

Patrick Gilham was identified as a potential suspect in this homicide from original evidence left at the scene that was examined forensically between Identifinders International LLC and the MSP Forensic Laboratory in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

After being identified as a possible suspect, Gilham had been surveilled extensively by MSP undercover units and interviewed on two separate occasions by detective sergeants Moore, Bailey, and Kyle Gorham, culminating in his arrest for open murder in South Bend, Indiana on an arrest warrant issued by the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office.

The MSP Fifth District Headquarters and Western Michigan University partnered and collaborated on this case through the universities' Cold Case Program. This program provided organizational and informational support made up of college students and its director, Dr. Ashlyn Kuersten. This was the first case in which the two entities formed the collaborative effort.

This investigation encompassed over 10,000 hours of investigative work by the MSP and its Special Investigation Section. Additional, significant support was provided in this case by the MSP Fifth District Fugitive Team, Technical Services Unit, and the South Bend Police Department's patrol and investigative bureau.

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MICHIGAN STATE POLICE

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