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**LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**CASE NUMBER:** 07-4205  
**DATE OF INCIDENT:** 5/17/2007  
**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** 8/8/2018 9:10 am  
**NATURE OF STORY:** DNA Match Leads to Arrest in 2007 Rape Case  
**LOCATION:** Crow, Lane County, Oregon  
**ARRESTED:** JESSE LEE CLARK, 37 y/o, Junction City  
Rape in the First Degree

**DETAILS:**

On May 17, 2007, the Lane County Sheriff's Office received a report that a 41 year old female had been forcibly raped by a stranger. The female reportedly had car trouble in the Eugene area and a man who was unknown to her offered her a ride so she could get assistance with her vehicle. Investigation indicates the male drove the female to the Crow area and forced her to have sex with him after assaulting her and threatening her if she fled. The male left the female on the side of the road in Crow where she flagged down a concerned community member who took her to the Sheriff's Office and the hospital.

The victim consented to have evidence collected during a sexual assault exam at the hospital in 2007, which was sent to the Oregon State Police Crime Lab for comparison to DNA samples on file. At the time, the kit did not yield any matches in CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

The Oregon State Police Crime Lab recently notified the Lane County Sheriff's Office that the DNA submitted in 2007 in connection with the 2007 rape report appeared to match that of 37 year old Jesse Lee Clark of Junction City.

Clark was located in the Eugene area on August 2, 2018, and was interviewed and subsequently arrested and lodged in the Lane County Jail on Rape in the First Degree.

This case has been referred to the Lane County District Attorney's Office for prosecution. The identity of the female victim is not being released at this time. We are extremely thankful for the technology in place that assists law enforcement in identifying suspects, even years after the initial crime. In this case, Clark's DNA was submitted to CODIS recently due to an unrelated case.

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**Sent by: Sergeant Carrie Carver 541-682-4179**

Byron M. Trapp, Sheriff  
Lane County Sheriff's Office  
125 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene OR 97401

Phone: 541-682-4150  
Fax: 541-682-4522  
[www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff](http://www.lanecounty.org/Departments/Sheriff)  
Email – [sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us](mailto:sheriffs.office@co.lane.or.us)

