



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Ingmar Guandique Sentenced to 60 Years in Prison For Killing of Chandra Levy - 2001 Slaying Part of Pattern of Violent Conduct -**

WASHINGTON - Ingmar Guandique, 29, was sentenced today to 60 years in prison on charges stemming from the May 2001 slaying of Chandra Levy, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and Cathy L. Lanier, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD).

Guandique, who has been incarcerated since his arrest in 2001 for other crimes against women, was convicted by a jury in November 2010 of charges of first degree felony murder with the aggravating circumstances of kidnapping and attempted robbery. He was sentenced in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by Judge Gerald I. Fisher, who presided at the trial.

Chandra Levy, 24, who had completed an internship with the federal Bureau of Prisons, disappeared on May 1, 2001. Her remains were found on May 22, 2002, in Rock Creek Park.

At the time of Ms. Levy's disappearance, Guandique was living in Washington, D.C. Following an extensive investigation, an arrest warrant was issued for the defendant in March 2009. He was indicted in May 2009.

In its sentencing memorandum, the government detailed a history of predatory behavior against women by Guandique and maintained that he will always be a danger to society.

According to evidence presented at trial, the attack upon Ms. Levy was among a series of crimes committed by the defendant between May 1 and July 1 of 2001 in secluded areas that were on the trails of Rock Creek Park, in Washington, D.C. Ms. Levy and three other women were stalked or attacked by Guandique while exercising in the park. The other victims managed to escape.

Guandique stalked one of the women on May 1, 2001, the day that Ms. Levy disappeared. He accosted another of the women while she was jogging on May 14, 2001, grabbing her from

around the neck at knifepoint. She got away during an ensuing struggle. Then, on July 1, 2001, Guandique attacked another woman who was jogging, also grabbing her at knifepoint. That victim also got away after a terrifying struggle with the defendant.

Guandique was arrested soon after the July 1, 2001 attack. He pleaded guilty in September 2001 to assault charges stemming from the May 14 and July 1 incidents. He is serving a 10-year prison sentence for those crimes and was due to be released at the end of December 2010.

According to the government's evidence, in 2006, while in prison and serving that 10-year sentence, Guandique confided to another inmate that he had attacked Ms. Levy in the park by grabbing her by the neck and dragging her off the trail. He also told that inmate that he took a fanny pack from Ms. Levy.

The government's witnesses at trial included the three women who escaped from Guandique's attacks, as well as the prisoner who heard Guandique's confession.

"Over nearly 10 years, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Metropolitan Police Department, FBI, and other law enforcement agencies have worked tirelessly to solve this case," U.S. Attorney Machen said. "Late last year, the question of who killed Chandra Levy was finally answered by a District of Columbia jury when Ingmar Guandique was found guilty of first degree felony murder. We hope that this sentence provides some measure of closure to the Levy family, which has shown remarkable strength throughout this ordeal. The U.S. Attorney's Office promises to continue to fight for the families of victims whose killers have yet to be brought to justice."

"This was a complicated case that spanned a decade," said MPD Chief Lanier. "I applaud the detectives and prosecutors for their uncompromising resolve. My thoughts are with the Levy family for all they have endured."

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen and Chief Lanier praised the efforts of those who worked on the investigation from MPD and other agencies. They especially noted the hard work of MPD Detectives Kenneth "Todd" Williams, Anthony Brigidini and Emilio Martinez.

They also expressed appreciation to members of the MPD Mobile Crime Lab, including John Allie, Charles Egan, Mike Miller, James Holder and John Holder; Joseph Kish, of the United States Park Service; Glenn Luppino, Chris Cunningham, John Bozak, Todd Ritacco, Craig Lane and Sgt. John Gott of the United States Park Police; Sue Fisher, from the U.S. Bureau of Prisons; Special Agent Jane Dombowski, of the FBI's Connecticut Field Office; forensic analysts and technicians from the FBI Laboratory at Quantico, and Dr. David Hunt from the Smithsonian Institution.

They expressed gratitude to those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Kim Herd, Katina Adams and David Foster, of the Victim Witness Assistance

Unit; Lawrence Grasso, of the Intelligence Unit; Acting Chief Elizabeth Trosman and Deputy Chiefs Mary McCord and John Mannarino, of the Appellate Division; Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Ambrosino, Special Counsel for DNA and Forensic Evidence Litigation; Leif Hickling, Kimberly Smith, Joe Calvarese and Thomas Royal, of Litigation Services, and Paralegals Candace Battle, Deborah Joyner and Kwasi Fields. Additionally, they thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Daniel Friedman and Kevin Flynn, former Assistant U.S. Attorney Elisa Poteat, and the Washington Field Office of the FBI, which participated in the early investigation of the case.

U.S. Attorney Machen and Chief Lanier further acknowledged the efforts of Yvonne Bryant, of the Victim Witness Assistance Unit, whose help was invaluable leading up to the sentencing.

Finally, they praised the work of Assistant U.S. Attorneys Amanda Haines, Fernando Campoamor-Sanchez, and Christopher Kavanaugh, who prosecuted the case.

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