

Drive By Shootings Using Two Single Action Revolvers

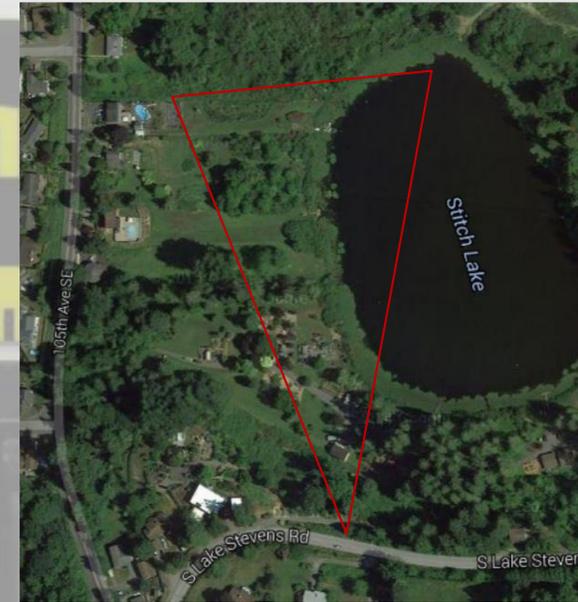
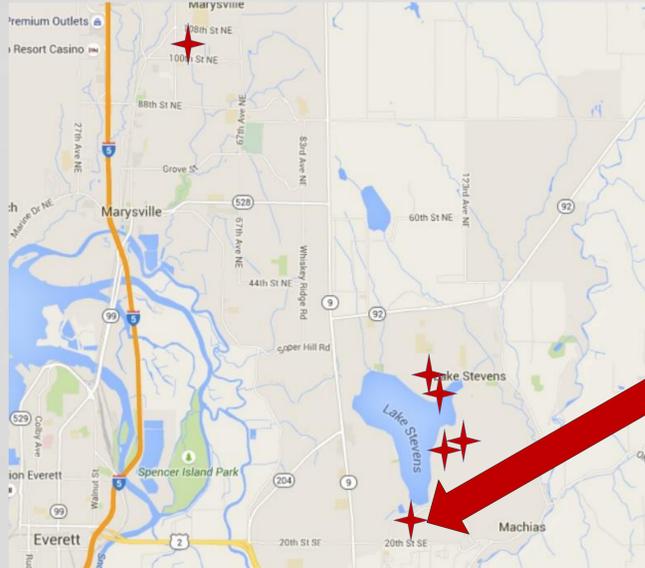
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June 1st, 2013 at about 11:15 pm a 15 year old girl was shot while walking along this road with five friends. They were celebrating her birthday and were returning from a park. A car went by firing a single shot and the girl died at the scene. The bullet perforated the neck.

Over the next few hours there were five other shootings from a vehicle in that area. Five of the shootings that night involved single shots. One shooting involved five shots. Fired bullets were recovered from all of the scenes except the homicide scene.

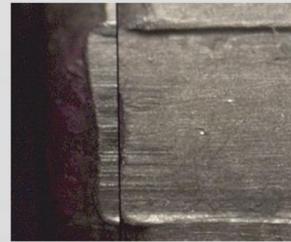
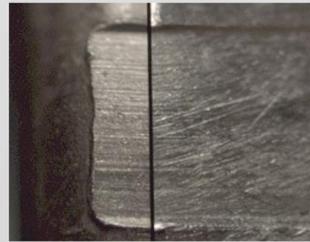


The bullet was destabilized. Test fires were done through ballistic gelatin. An approximate maximum distance that the bullet would have traveled was calculated. The search focused on this area of the scene. No bullet was ever found.



The vehicle used at one of the scenes hit a parked car, transferred paint and left headlamp pieces.

Our initial microscopic comparisons were inconclusive if the bullets were fired from one or two firearms. Based on the scenario, an examiner might be tempted to initially make the leap to one firearm. This case reinforced our need to recognize potential contextual bias and reject that bias as we do our examinations.



The bullets were determined to be 30 carbine caliber. The general rifling characteristics included M1 carbines, the Enforcer model and Ruger Blackhawks. Initial microscopic comparisons indicated that there could be two separate firearms of the same caliber and general rifling characteristics might be involved.



The investigators started by looking for leads related to Ruger Blackhawks.

Only one person purchased this type of firearm from Cabela's and they had a vehicle registered to them that the paint might have come from.



Two 30 carbine caliber Ruger Blackhawks were in his bedroom. Microscopic comparisons identified fired bullets from different scenes to the two revolvers.

The defendant was found guilty of manslaughter and the other shootings. He was sentenced to 90 years.