

**THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA**



presents

A Medicolegal Symposium on the Serial Murder Case of Reta Mays

Hosted by WVU College of Law

Thursday, October 14, 2021

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Marlyn E. Lugar Courtroom



Introduction

In May 2021, Reta Mays, a former nursing assistant at the veterans hospital in Clarksburg, West Virginia, was sentenced to seven terms of life imprisonment plus 20 years for murdering seven patients with insulin and attempting to murder an eighth by the same method. The two-year investigation that preceded the July 2020 guilty pleas was highly complicated, especially when it came to the medicine involved.

The U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI, and the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General, along with experts from around the globe, will discuss the cutting-edge efforts made to ensure justice for the victims.

Panel Discussions

The Clinical Perspective
The Forensic Perspective
The Psychiatry of a Medical Serial Murderer
The Prosecution Team

Agenda



9:00-9:15 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

- Amelia Smith Rinehart, Dean of the West Virginia University College of Law
- Dr. Clay Marsh, Dean of the West Virginia University School of Medicine
- Randolph J. Bernard, Acting United States Attorney, Northern District of West Virginia

9:15-10:30 a.m.

PANEL ONE: THE CLINICAL PERSPECTIVE

Moderator/Panelist: Jarod J. Douglas, Assistant United States Attorney, USAO-NDWV, Wheeling, WV

Panelists: Diane Krieger, MD, Endocrinologist, Miami, FL

David R. Owens, CBE, MD, FRCP, FIBIOL, Endocrinologist and Diabetologist, Wales, United Kingdom
(appearing via Zoom)

10:30-10:45 a.m.

BREAK



Agenda



10:45-12:00 p.m. PANEL TWO: THE FORENSIC PERSPECTIVE

Moderator/Panelist: Jarod J. Douglas, Assistant United States Attorney, USAO-NDWV, Wheeling, WV

Panelists: Paul S. Uribe, MD, Director of the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner at the Dover Air Force Base (retired), Dover, DE

Laura M. Labay, Ph.D., F-ABFT, DABCC-TC, Forensic Toxicologist and Director of Toxicological Services at National Medical Services, now known as NMS Labs, Horsham, PA

Mario Thevis, Ph.D., Forensic Biochemist and Vice-President of Research at German Sport University Cologne, Cologne, Germany (appearing via Zoom)

12:00-1:30 p.m. LUNCH BREAK

1:30-2:45 p.m. PANEL THREE: THE PSYCHIATRY OF A MEDICAL SERIAL MURDERER

Moderator/Panelist: Jarod J. Douglas, Assistant United States Attorney, USAO-NDWV, Wheeling, WV

Panelist: Ricky D. Malone, MD, MPH, MSSl, Forensic Psychiatrist and Behavioral Science Consultant, Woodbridge, VA



Agenda



2:45-3:00 p.m.

BREAK

3:00-4:15 p.m.

PANEL FOUR: THE PROSECUTION TEAM

Moderator/Panelist: Jarod J. Douglas, Assistant United States Attorney, USAO-NDWV, Wheeling, WV

Panelists: Brandon S. Flower, Assistant United States Attorney, USAO-NDWV, Clarksburg, WV

Chris Frizzell, Victim-Witness Coordinator, USAO-NDWV, Wheeling, WV

Ashley Archibald, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Clarksburg, WV

Colin Davis, Special Agent in Charge, Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General, Investigative Operations Division, Washington, DC

Keith Vereb, Resident Agent in Charge, Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General, Mid-Atlantic Field Office, Washington, DC

4:15-4:30 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS

- Amelia Smith Rinehart, Dean of the West Virginia University College of Law
- Dr. Clay Marsh, Dean of the West Virginia University School of Medicine
- Randolph J. Bernard, Acting United States Attorney, Northern District of West Virginia





Randolph J. Bernard

Acting United States Attorney

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of West Virginia

Randolph J. Bernard was named the Acting United States Attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia, effective March 1, 2021. Mr. Bernard previously served as First Assistant U.S. Attorney and the Chief of the Criminal Division. Mr. Bernard joined the office in 2002 and has experience prosecuting a wide range of criminal cases, including drugs and violent crimes, firearms, white collar offenses, fraud and tax cases, and child pornography cases. Mr. Bernard has also served as the District Office Security Manager. Before becoming an Assistant United States Attorney, Mr. Bernard served as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Wheeling, West Virginia Resident Agency. Prior to the FBI, he was a litigation attorney in private practice with Coolidge, Wall, Womsley & Lombard in Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Bernard is a 1987 magna cum laude graduate of Ohio Northern University College of Law and a 1984 graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



Jarod J. Douglas

Assistant United States Attorney

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of West Virginia

Jarod J. Douglas serves as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of West Virginia, where he prosecutes crimes involving national security, civil rights, public corruption, and financial fraud. He served as the lead counsel for the government in the prosecution of Reta Mays. Prior to serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he served as a law clerk for the Honorable John Preston Bailey, U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of West Virginia. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from West Virginia University. During his undergraduate studies, he was a four-year member of the WVU football team, including the 2006 Sugar Bowl champion team.



Amelia Smith Rinehart

Dean

WVU College of Law

West Virginia University

Amelia Smith Rinehart is the 18th Dean of the West Virginia University College of Law. She was previously the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and a Professor of Law at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, whose faculty she joined in 2010 following two years as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Law at Florida State University. Prior to entering the legal academy, Dean Rinehart practiced law for several years at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe L.L.P. in New York, and Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poitevent, Carrère & Denègre L.L.P. in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she specialized in intellectual property litigation, procurement, and counseling. She is a registered patent attorney and her scholarship focuses on patent law and theory. Dean Rinehart received her J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 2002. She received a Master of Science in biomedical engineering from Tulane University in 1997, and a Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering, summa cum laude, with Departmental Honors from Tulane University in 1996. Prior to attending law school, Dean Rinehart worked as an engineer at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Dean Rinehart teaches Contracts, Patent Law, Intellectual Property Survey, and Leadership and the Law. She lives in Morgantown with her two children and enjoys reading, live music, and outdoor trails.



Speakers



Clay B. Marsh, MD

Dean

*WVU School of Medicine
West Virginia University*

A national leader in personalized medicine and in pulmonary and critical care medicine, Marsh has concentrated his efforts in determining how to help individuals stay healthy and how to create ecosystems to make this easy. Marsh is a two-time graduate of West Virginia University, earning an undergraduate degree in biology in 1981 and a medical degree in 1985. From 1985 to 2015 he was at The Ohio State University. He served a residency in internal medicine; a research fellowship in pulmonary and critical care, a chief residency in internal medicine; a fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine; and an extension research fellowship in pulmonary and critical care. He serves on national scientific advisory committees for organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the American Thoracic Society, the Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation, GlaxoSmithKline and Caris Life Sciences. He is a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation. In response to the challenges of the new coronavirus COVID-19, Marsh was appointed as "COVID-19 czar" by Gov. Jim Justice. In his role, Marsh coordinates the state's response to the challenges of the new coronavirus, collaborating with federal, state and local agencies, health officials, researchers and other agencies helping with the effort.



Diane Krieger, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine

*Herbert Wertham College of Medicine
Florida International University*

Dr. Diane Krieger is an endocrinologist and Associate Professor of Medicine at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. She practices general endocrinology and diabetes and teaches second- and third-year medical students and family practice residents. She received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University, her MD from the University of California, San Francisco and completed her internal medicine residency and endocrinology fellowship at the Beth Israel Hospital, Boston.



David R. Owens, CBE, MD, FRCP, BIBIOL

Endocrinologist and Diabetologist

Dr. David R. Owens is an endocrinologist, diabetologist, and Professor of Diabetes at Swansea University in Wales, who has conducted extensive research and published several peer-reviewed articles on the pharmacology of insulin. In 1966, he qualified as a doctor at the Wales National School of Medicine with distinction in pharmacology and therapeutics. Insulin was the subject of his thesis, which was later published as a book. After graduating, he was a house officer in Medicine and Surgery at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and then senior house officer at Sully Hospital. Next, he took up a research post in the pharmaceutical industry, returning to Cardiff University as a lecturer in clinical pharmacology and therapeutics. He then became a senior lecturer and consultant diabetologist before becoming a Professor of Diabetes at Cardiff University in the early 1990s based at Llandough University Hospital. Although he retired in 2006, he continues to support research activities in diabetes and continues to author peer-reviewed published articles concerning the pharmacokinetics of insulin, including an article published 2018. Currently, he is authoring a book on the history of insulin to mark the 100-year anniversary of the discovery of insulin.



Speakers



Paul S. Uribe, MD

Forensic Pathologist

United States Army (Retired)

Dr. Paul S. Uribe is a forensic pathologist retired from the military with over 23 years of service in the U.S. Army. In his last assignment, he served as Director of the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner. Dr. Uribe attended Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, California, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychobiology. He received admission to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) for medical school and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in June 1997. Upon graduating from USUHS, he completed a Transitional Internship at Madigan Army Medical Center in Fort Lewis, WA followed by Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington DC/National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. After a three-year assignment as a staff pathologist at Madigan Army Medical Center, he was selected for a forensic pathology fellowship at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System in 2009.



Laura M. Labay, Ph.D., F-ABFT, DABCC-TC

Director of Toxicological Services

NMS Labs

Dr. Laura M. Labay is a forensic toxicologist and the Director of Toxicological Services at NMS Labs. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and Master's and Doctorate degrees in the field of Toxicology from the University of Rochester. Dr. Labay worked for several years at the New York City Police Department – Forensic Investigation Division before joining NMS Labs in 2000. At the NYPD, some of her responsibilities included analyzing evidentiary material for the presence of controlled substances and testing blood samples for DUI investigation purposes. As a forensic toxicologist, Dr. Labay reviews all types of cases (e.g., postmortem, DUI/DUID, Drug Facilitated Crime, etc.), and authorizes the release of reports from the laboratory and helps to interpret results. She has been qualified numerous times in several courts throughout the country as an expert in forensic toxicology. In addition, she is a member of several professional organizations including the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (Toxicology Section), the Society of Forensic Toxicologists, and the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). Dr. Labay is the Toxicology Co-Chair for NAME, an Instructor at the Center for Forensic Science Research and Education, and an Advisory Board Member for the Professional Science Master's Program in Forensic Toxicology for Jefferson College of Biomedical Sciences and The Center for Forensic Science Research & Education. Dr. Labay is Board Certified by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology and the American Board of Clinical Chemistry in Toxicological Chemistry.



Mario Thevis, Ph.D.

Director of the Institute of Biochemistry

German Sport University Cologne

Dr. Mario Thevis is a biochemist and forensic chemist currently serving as Director of the Institute of Biochemistry of the German Sport University Cologne in Cologne, Germany. He also serves as Director of the European Monitoring Center for Emerging Doping Agents and Editor-in-Chief of Drug Testing & Analysis. Dr. Thevis graduated in Organic Chemistry and Sports Sciences in 1998. He earned his Ph.D. in Biochemistry in 2001 and did post-doctoral research at the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry of the University of California Los Angeles in 2002. After serving as a senior researcher from 2003 to 2005, he was appointed as Professor for Preventive Doping Research at the German Sport University Cologne in 2006.



Speakers



Ricky D. Malone, MD, MPH, MSSI

Forensic Psychiatrist

United States Army (Retired)

Dr. Ricky D. Malone is a forensic psychiatrist retired from the military with over 26 years of active duty service in the U.S. Army. In his last assignment, he was with the Headquarters U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command in Quantico, VA. He completed a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry at the University of Texas at Dallas and attended medical school at UT Southwestern Medical School. He holds a Master of Public Health degree in Occupational Health/Aerospace Medicine from the UT School of Public Health and a Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence from the National Intelligence University. Dr. Malone is board certified in Preventive Medicine (Occupational Medicine and Aerospace Medicine) and Psychiatry (General Psychiatry and Forensic Psychiatry). He is also certified as a Counter-Denial and Deception Intelligence Analyst.

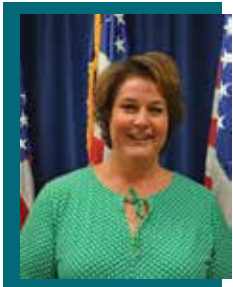


Brandon S. Flower

Assistant United States Attorney

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of West Virginia

Brandon S. Flower serves as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of West Virginia, where he prosecutes crimes involving drug trafficking, illegal firearm possession, and violence in federal prisons. He served as co-counsel for the government in the prosecution of Reta Mays. Prior to serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he was an associate attorney at Rose Padden Petty Taylor & Lilly, LC, where he managed criminal defense cases in state and federal courts and civil litigation. He also previously served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Marion and Monongalia counties, an Assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of West Virginia, and a law clerk to Judge Todd Kaufman, Circuit Court Judge for Kanawha County. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from West Virginia University. During his undergraduate studies, he served two years as the Mountaineer Mascot.



Christine Frizzell

Victim-Witness Coordinator

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of West Virginia

Chris Frizzell has served as the Victim-Witness Coordinator in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of West Virginia since 1999. In this role, she coordinated with the family members of the victims in the Reta Mays case both during the investigation and the prosecution. She is a licensed social worker who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education/Special Education from West Liberty University and a Master's degree in Social Work from West Virginia University.



Speakers



Ashley Archibald

Special Agent

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Ashley Archibald is a Special Agent Bomb Technician with the Pittsburgh Division of the FBI, currently assigned to Clarksburg, WV. Since joining the Bureau in 2016, she has worked a combination of white collar, violent crime, and international terrorism investigations. Special Agent Archibald served as the FBI case agent in the investigation of Reta Mays.



Colin Davis

Special Agent in Charge

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General

Colin Davis is the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VA OIG), Investigative Operations Division, where he is responsible for providing nationwide investigative support and guidance pertaining to VA programs such as procurement, healthcare, and compensation benefits. SAC Davis previously served as the Resident Agent in Charge of the VA OIG's Mid-Atlantic Field Office where he supervised Special Agents responsible for investigations that impacted VA's programs and operations in Washington D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and part of West Virginia. He has also served as an Assistant Special Agent in Charge at VA OIG's headquarters and as a Special Agent in VA OIG's Southeast Field Office. Prior to joining the VA OIG, SAC Davis was a Special Agent with the United States Secret Service (USSS), and during his last assignment, his duties included assessing and mitigating potential threats to protectees from explosive, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards. Prior to joining the USSS, SAC Davis served as a Police Officer in Florida. SAC Davis was a case agent in the investigation of Reta Mays.



Keith Vereb

Resident Agent in Charge

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General

Keith Vereb is the Resident Agent in Charge (RAC) of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VA OIG) Mid-Atlantic Field Office where he supervises Special Agents responsible for investigations that impact VA's programs and operations in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and part of West Virginia. Prior to becoming RAC, he served as a Special Agent in VA OIG's Mid-Atlantic Field Office since 2012. Prior to joining the Mid-Atlantic Field Office, RAC Vereb served as a Special Agent in VA OIG's New York Resident Agency beginning in 2008. RAC Vereb was a case agent in the investigation of Reta Mays.

