



Police Department
464 N. Rexford Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817
FAX: 310.246.9854

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2011
Lieutenant Tony Lee, Public Information Officer
310.285.2109

Chasen Homicide Brought to Closure

The Beverly Hills Police Department has completed the exhaustive investigation into the horrific murder of Ronni Chasen. From the date the crime occurred on November 16, 2010 until today, Robbery Homicide Detectives faced the daunting task of recreating the life of and familiarizing themselves with renowned publicist, Ronni Chasen.

During the investigation, detectives reviewed in excess of 150,000 emails and texts belonging to the victim and investigated thousands of tips received on the police department's hotline. A comprehensive review of thousands of financial documents belonging to Ms. Chasen and persons of interest was also conducted. In addition, Detectives recovered video and Closed Circuit TV footage which established Ms. Chasen's route of travel between Hollywood and Beverly Hills on the night of her murder. Numerous interviews were also conducted with family, friends, professional contacts and other individuals who provided information to detective personnel. Beverly Hills Police personnel assigned to this case worked in excess of 10,000 hours in order to thoroughly investigate each and every tip, theory and legitimate lead in order to bring this investigation to conclusion.

Due to Ronni Chasen's reputation within the industry, public interest was high. However without a doubt, it is the conclusion of Robbery Homicide Detectives that the sole perpetrator of this most heinous crime was Harold Martin Smith. All facts and evidence conclusively indicate that Mr. Smith acted alone and was in possession of the murder weapon when confronted in Hollywood for questioning on the night of December 10, 2010. Los Angeles County Sheriff's confirmed the weapon used in the Chasen homicide and the weapon Smith used to take his own life, were one in the same.

Detectives met recently with family members in order to discuss the investigation and to address any and all concerns the family may have as it relates to this matter. Upon conclusion, the family expressed their satisfaction with the investigation.

Chief Snowden and all the members of the Beverly Hills Police Department sincerely hope that the conclusion of this investigation will enable the family to bring closure to a most difficult chapter in their lives. The family has asked that the media respect their privacy at this difficult time.

Any questions should be addressed to Lieutenant Tony Lee, Public Information Officer (310) 285-2109 or Sergeant Shan Davis at (310) 285-2112.