



Boynton Beach Police Department Office of Media Relations

G. Matthew Immler, Chief of Police



Police taking a fresh looking at 1988 missing person's case

Boynton Beach police are taking a fresh look at the 1988 disappearance of a Boynton Beach woman and asking for the public's help in obtaining new information.

Hattie Burton was 19 years old and about five months pregnant when she disappeared.

At around 10 a.m. on February 10, 1988, Hattie's stepmother, Ruth Burton, came to the police department to report her missing.

Ruth Burton went to work the day before, and at around 10 a.m., called her home at 91 N.W. 27th Court and spoke with Hattie.

When Ruth Burton arrived home, Hattie was gone. She did not leave a note, which Ruth Burton said was unusual, and she did not have any money with her.

Hattie has not been heard from since. At the time of her disappearance, Hattie attended Santaluces High School and lived in the house on Northwest 27th Court with her family. Her father, Benjamin Burton Sr., 63, and stepmother, Ruth Burton, 70, still live there.

The above picture on the left was Hattie's high school photo. The picture on the right is age-progressed to 40 years.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to call Detective Francesca Gordon at 561-742-6861, Sgt. Thomas Wallace at 561-742-6126 or Crime Stoppers of Palm Beach County at 800-458-TIPS.

You can remain anonymous. Tips can also be submitted via www.bbpd.org.

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