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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- THIS JUST IN

### Ex-LAPD homicide detective arrested in wife's 2006 Hawaii slaying

May 15, 2012 | 2:48 pm

A retired LAPD homicide detective has been arrested in the fatal beating of his wife in Hawaii six years ago after being long suspected of the crime, police officials said Tuesday.

Dan DeJarnette, 59, was taken into custody without incident Monday night at his home on the Big Island in connection with the slaying of his wife, Yu DeJarnette.

He said at the time of her November 2006 death that he had awakened and found her lying on a lava embankment about 20 feet from the couple's home in Ka'u on the southern end of island. She suffered severe head trauma and was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

DeJarnette told patrol officers his 56-year-old wife had been hurt in an accident. But an autopsy determined she died from head trauma, and the retired officer was booked on suspicion of murder — and then released because of lack of evidence.

But authorities took a new look at the case in January. After additional investigation that included testing of DNA evidence, prosecutors secured an indictment against DeJarnette from a Hawaii grand jury, according to sources familiar with the case. They declined to be identified because the investigation is ongoing.

He was scheduled to make his first appearance Tuesday in a Hawaiian courtroom. He was being held in lieu of \$200,000 bail.

The indictment comes just days after former LAPD Det. Stephanie Lazarus was sentenced to 27 years to life in prison with the possibility of parole for killing her ex-boyfriend's wife nearly three decades ago in a fit of rage and jealousy.

LAPD Lt. Andy Neiman had no immediate comment on the DeJarnette case because he said DeJarnette is retired and the LAPD is not handling the criminal investigation.

After joining the LAPD in 1982, DeJarnette worked as a homicide detective at the Van Nuys Division and investigated rape cases while assigned to the department's Robbery Homicide Division-Rape Special Section.

During his tenure, he handled several high-profile investigations, including a fatal Christmas night shooting at an Echo Park pizza parlor in 1990, the 1993 stabbing death of a woman and her unborn baby at an automated teller machine in Sherman Oaks, and a 1981 cold-case murder of a newlywed in her Sherman Oaks home by a serial rapist.

DeJarnette moved to the Big Island after his retirement in 2003 from the LAPD.

In a 2009 interview with the Associated Press in a story about high unemployment in Hawaii, DeJarnette mentioned he had worked for the LAPD but not his previous arrest.

"I get kind of bored sitting at home," DeJarnette told the wire service, noting he wanted to pay down some of his credit cards. "My wife passed a couple years ago, and now I'm waiting every day for the mailman to come, so I need to work."

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-- Andrew Blankstein ([Twitter.com/anblanx](https://twitter.com/anblanx))

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**William Steinberg** · Top Commenter · UCLA

Retired pigs are 4 times as likely to commit murder as the general population. No big surprise here. One killed my best friend in 2006. Shot him in the back. The killer was dying of cancer and decided my friend should go with him. LAPD knew he was an ex-cop and never even questioned him after the incident. He killed himself with a different gun a week later. LAPD still didn't admit he was a possible suspect, contending the fatal bullet had fallen from the sky, a random shot from else where in the neighborhood. Finally the truth came out when a relative of the murderer found the murder weapon in a drawer in the a-hole's bedroom. Do not trust pigs. As Mick Lager said long ago...'all the cops are criminals, and all the sinners saints...'

Reply · 4 · Like · Follow Post · May 15, 2012 at 5:48pm



**Ronald Williams** · Top Commenter

Names to verify this story.

Reply · 1 · Like · May 15, 2012 at 10:01pm



**Henry Tang** · Top Commenter · UCLA

of course there are good cops and bad cops, and good cops who turn bad, as in any population. but 'all cops crimals and all sinners saints'? you're a goof and a riot. thanks for the joke of the day.

Reply · 1 · Like · May 15, 2012 at 10:39pm



**Frank Garcia** · Los Angeles, California

Agree, most cops are arrogant, egotistic, and violent cowards.

Reply · Like · July 8, 2012 at 11:31pm



**Richard Lucas** · Top Commenter

The single most dangerous gang that is likely to murder you in LA is the police. They murder more people than they protect. They are nothing but a cartel stealing tax dollars from your kids education. The average makes \$200,000/year. Check out the mercury news salary project. The only place a thug can make that kind of money is in crime. Which is exactly what police thugs are doing.

Reply · 1 · Like · Follow Post · May 15, 2012 at 7:54pm



**Ronald Williams** · Top Commenter

Also, here is the link to the current LAPD officer contract <http://cao.lacity.org/MOUs/MOU24-14.pdf>. Can you please point out which page shows LAPD officers making an average of \$200k a year? Thank you. And remember, LAPD officers DO NOT get cash overtime.

Reply · 1 · Like · May 15, 2012 at 10:00pm



**Henry Tang** · Top Commenter · UCLA

cops caught the man who murdered my cousin and his three friends on his birthday. ive seen them do many outstanding shootings this year that killed jerkoffs and saved innocent people's lives. and that kind of money? i know thugs who spend that money in a week. you're nothing but a joke. thanks for the laughs!

Reply · 1 · Like · May 15, 2012 at 10:42pm



**Betsy A. Ross**

Andrew, it's interesting that you mention Lazarus in this story. Lazarus also worked in Van Nuys Homicide in the 90's, along with DeJarnette. Small world, highly unusual coincidence.

Reply · 1 · Like · Follow Post · May 16, 2012 at 3:11pm



**Alex Adam Alexander** · Top Commenter

All kinds of people kill their wives, husbands etc. It is such a big deal a police officer does? I am sure at least one other husband in Hawaii killed their wife and the times did not report it.

Hey how about that economy thing, like to know more before the election

Reply · 1 · Like · Follow Post · May 15, 2012 at 6:39pm



**Helen Rankin Silvers** · Top Commenter · Works at Semi-Retired

I'd like to know more about why refineries producing gasoline for California drivers always seem to shut down during the spring/summer when driving is more prevalent.

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