



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **UPDATE: Missing Adult Located**

The Toronto Police Service announced today that they have positively identified a woman found in Toronto previously known only as “Linda” as 56 year old Linda Hegg who was reported missing from Newark, Delaware in November.

Newark PD disseminated a press release on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 alerting the public that 56 year old Linda Hegg, who suffers from an undisclosed medical condition, was reported missing from her home. Following that release, on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 NPD received information from a subject in Canada who had seen our press release and was familiar with the efforts by the Toronto Police Service to identify the woman known only as Linda who walked into a Toronto shelter on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The subject noticed similarities between the photo released by NPD and that released by the Toronto Police Service. NPD Detectives forwarded this information to the Toronto Police Service and assisted them in their investigation. Following an extensive investigation the Toronto Police Service used DNA to positively identify the subject as Linda Hegg.

Attached is a press release from the Toronto Police Service detailing their investigation.

Original Release:

*November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

## **GOLD ALERT: Missing Adult**

The Newark Police Department is searching for Linda Hegg, a 55 year old female who is overdue in returning to her residence located in the unit block of Country Club Drive in the City of Newark. Hegg was last seen in mid to late September and has not been seen or heard from since. Ms. Hegg’s medical condition is such that there is a real concern for her safety.

Ms. Hegg is described as a white female, 5’4” tall, 130 lbs with short blond hair and blue

*The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or [mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us](mailto:mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us).



## PRESS RELEASE, Continued

eyes. It is unknown what clothing she may be wearing and she is not known to operate a motor vehicle.

Anyone with information on her whereabouts is asked to call NPD at (302) 366-7111.

A photograph of the subject is attached.

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**Media Contact: M/Cpl Gerald Bryda, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 129 or [gerald.bryda@cj.state.de.us](mailto:gerald.bryda@cj.state.de.us).**







## Woman previously known only as "Linda" now identified, Linda Hegg, 56, of Newark, Delaware

**Broadcast time:** 10:35

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

54 Division

416-808-5400

The Toronto Police Service would like to thank the public for all their concern and assistance trying to identify a woman previously known only as "Linda".

[See previous release.](#)

Linda entered Canada via bus where she walked into a downtown Toronto shelter for assistance on September 5, 2012, known only as "Linda," without identification or any further knowledge about herself.

On October 5, 2012, the Toronto Police Service began issuing news releases with Linda's photo, hoping that someone would recognize her and be able to provide some details about her.

Officers from 54 Division continued investigating Linda's situation and made several attempts to identify her locally, but without success. Due to Linda's poor health condition, the urgency to identify her increased.

[See previous release.](#)

[See previous release.](#)

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[See previous release.](#)

The news releases resulted in numerous interviews being done with news outlets coast to coast.

On November 7, 2012, police received information about a woman reported missing from Newark, Delaware, who resembled "Linda."

On Monday, December 10, 2012, with the use of DNA, Linda's identity was confirmed. "Linda" was the woman reported missing from Newark: Linda Hegg, 56.

When officers spoke to Linda and told her that they knew who she was, she smiled and her eyes lit up. It was the first time in two months investigators had seen Linda smile.

On Friday, December 14, 2012, representatives from Resources for Human Development arrived in Toronto to meet with Detective Caracciolo and Linda. HRD were able to take Linda home later that afternoon, with the assistance of the Canadian Boarder Services Agency and the US Border services, just in time for Christmas.

Linda is now resting comfortably, in hospital in Newark, with family at her side.

The Toronto Police Service would like to thank a number of agencies that provided assistance during this investigation: the original shelter that took Linda in and contacted police, Toronto East General Hospital, Newark Police Department, Indianapolis Police Department, U.S. Navy, Centre of Forensic Sciences, the Canadian Border Services Agency, the US Border Services and the media. Working together with all these agencies made it possible to get Linda home for the holidays.

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Constable Wendy Drummond, Corporate Communications, for Detective Roger Caracciolo,  
54 Division



**Woman previously known only as "Linda" now identified,  
Linda Hegg, 56, of Newark, Delaware**



**Above:** Woman known only as "Linda" now identified, Linda Hegg, 56, of Newark, New Jersey