

NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

March 1, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Skeletal Remains of Missing Adult Found

Newark Police are conducting a death investigation after human skeletal remains were found by a hiker in a heavily wooded area behind Fremont Road in the City of Newark.

The discovery of the remains occurred at approximately 4:30pm on February 28th when the hiker, who was searching off trail for shed deer antlers, made the discovery. The remains were located in an area of thick brush and thickets approximately 400' from a trail head on Fremont Road. The hiker left the area and alerted State Park Rangers who returned to the area to investigate. After confirming the remains, Newark Police were notified.

Preliminary Investigation by the Newark Police and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner positively identified the remains through dental records as that of John Dohms, missing since September 13th, 2012.

John Dohms, who suffered from dementia, was last seen on September 13th, 2012. An intensive search involving multiple police agencies and search and rescue teams was conducted in the woodlands surrounding White Clay Creek State Park; however, he was never located.

Newark Police Detectives continue their investigation into the circumstances surrounding this incident. The cause and manner of death is still under investigation.

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.