

For Immediate Release

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MARK CHRISTIE PLEADS GUILTY TO 1988 BEATING DEATH OF HILTON WOMAN

20 Years to Life Added to the Life Sentence He's Already Serving for Murder of Kali Poulton

Mark John Christie, the man serving 25 years to life in prison for the 1994 kidnapping and murder of Kali Ann Poulton, pleaded guilty this afternoon to murdering Viola Manville in 1988.

Christie admitted in court that on the morning of November 29, 1988, when he was just 16 years old, he passed Manville while she walked along an abandoned railroad bed in Hilton. Christie says he used a BB gun to shoot the 74-year-old Manville in the head and then used the gun to beat her. He then struck her numerous times about the face and forehead with a railroad tie. Christie says he didn't learn that his victim was Viola Manville, until the next day.

Assistant District Attorney Doug Randall, the prosecutor in the case, says the Manville family is relieved that after 23 years, their mother's murder case is finally closed. "Christie's guilty plea means the Manville family will not have to undergo the difficulty of another trial."

Christie will be sentenced to 20 years to life on October 28, 2011 at 10am. This sentence will run consecutive to the life sentence he is already serving.

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