

## **COPS HAVE SUSPECT IN SLAYINGS MONROE COUNTY MAN JAILED ON UNRELATED CHARGES**

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A 27-year-old Monroe County man is suspected of being a serial killer responsible for the deaths or disappearances of several Toledo women, police said Monday.

Toledo police said **Charles Mackay** of Lambertville was being held in the Lucas County Jail on an unrelated rape charge but is strongly suspected in the deaths of the women. Macomb County prosecutors expect to file charges in two of the deaths soon.

On Saturday, the bodies of two women believed to be from Toledo were discovered buried on a farm in Erie Township in Monroe County. A Wayne County medical examiner's autopsy revealed Sunday that one of the women, a 43-year-old, was beaten to death.

Police say that woman was found with a 30-year-old woman in a field on Sterns Road between M-125 and Telegraph Road. The autopsy results on the younger woman were pending.

Police would not identify the two victims. One was about 4-feet-8 and weighed about 135 pounds. The other was about 5-feet-3 and weighed about 115.

Monroe County Sheriff's Detective Tom Redmond said the bodies were nude and were buried in a 3- to 3 1/4-foot grave in a farm field. They had been there perhaps four to five months, police said.

Since August, Toledo police had been taking reports of missing women suspected of being prostitutes. Sgt. Tim Noble couldn't say how many women had been reported missing.

Noble said **Mackay** may be connected to the disappearances of other women.

On Jan. 6, the body of Valerie Jones, 38, of Toledo was found at a garbage dump at the Hoffman-Lehman Road area north of Toledo. Jones, who reportedly was strangled, had been reported missing in August and an investigation of her death led police to other possible victims.

Police also link **Mackay** to the death of Debra Dixon, 44, of Toledo, whose burned and beaten body was found Dec. 24 in a Toledo industrial area.

A second man also might be involved in the killings, said Detective Sgt. Alison King of the Michigan State Police. He is in jail on unrelated charges and is believed to be from Toledo, police said.

Investigators developed enough information during the weekend to obtain a search warrant for **Mackay** 's home in Lambertville, in southern Monroe County. Lambertville is just north of the Ohio state line.

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