

VHS Tape of Karen Boudrie's TV Stories on DeLuna/Lopez Case

(Transcriber's notes--

There is no time code recorded on the tape, times are in hours:minutes:seconds from the beginning of the tape.

[?] indicates words or phrases that are inaudible or indistinguishable)

00:00:15

Close-up of Carlos DeLuna's face behind chain link.

Carlos DeLuna: [?] I've been to so many places, but I've never hit any place like this. At times, it gets lonely, at nights. Sometimes I don't know what to do.

00:00:32

Sound fades out, Karen Boudrie voice-over.

Karen Boudrie (v.o.): 26-year-old Carlos DeLuna is on Death Row, and has been for just about a year now. He was convicted of a brutal and senseless murder, the stabbing death of 26-year-old Wanda Lopez.

00:00:41

Close-up on photograph of Wanda Lopez.

00:00:44

Wide shot of gas station.

KB: Lopez was an attendant at this Sigmore station in the 2600 Block of South Padre Island Drive. It was the night of February 4th, 1983. Wanda Lopez was working alone behind the counter -

00:00:55

Shot of Diamond Shamrock / Sigmore sign.

KB: - when a man came in the store. A customer noticed him outside drinking a beer earlier, and noticed that he also had a knife.

00:01:02

*Interior of gas station store from behind the counter.
Cash register in foreground.*

KB: He became suspicious and told Wanda to call the police.

00:01:05

Close-up of wall-mounted rotary telephone.

KB: She was on the phone to police when the suspect pulled out a knife and demanded money.

00:01:10

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

Gas station parking lot. Karen Boudrie in foreground with microphone, Sigmor station store in background.

KB: We may never know why Wanda Lopez was stabbed that night. It may be because she was describing her assailant to police over the phone. But one of the things that sent chills up and down the spines of everyone in the courtroom during the trial was listening to the last words Wanda Lopez ever spoke.

00:01:26

Back to close-up of telephone.

KB: The phone call Lopez made to police was recorded -

00:01:29

Courtroom sketch of jury.

KB: - and the prosecuting attorney, Steve Schiwetz, played it several times to the jury.

00:01:34

Back to close-up of telephone.

KB: In that call, Lopez told the man she'd give him all the money, but just don't hurt her. Then there was a piercing scream. Wanda Lopez had been stabbed.

00:01:43

Outside gas station, store and pumps visible.

KB: She then crawled outside the front door and collapsed on the pavement. A few minutes later, police arrested Carlos DeLuna -

00:01:49

Empty lot.

KB: - hiding under a car in a nearby neighborhood. Witnesses had helped chase him down. Two men who were customers at the gas station identified DeLuna -

00:01:55

Narrow hallway, two men walking towards camera, one in police uniform, one in a suit.

KB: -as the man they saw struggling with Lopez inside the station, and two others picked him out of a photo line-up as the man they saw running from the scene. And Carlos DeLuna himself admits he was there.

00:02:09

Back to DeLuna behind chain link.

DeLuna: I was standing there when somebody else did what

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

they did, you know. But I won't name no names. I already named names, and the court... And the case is due to appear and I won't name names no more.

00:02:17

Two men in conversation; we do not hear them.

KB: Tomorrow we'll tell you about the state's attempt to find the man DeLuna claims committed the crime -

00:02:24

Prison visiting room, DeLuna behind chain link window. A woman sits on the opposite side of the window.

KB: - and we'll talk more with DeLuna about life on Death Row. Karen Boudrie, News Watch 10.

NEW SEGMENT

00:02:32

Close-up of DeLuna behind chain link.

DeLuna: [?] they're not trying to find this person. They say they've tried but they have not tried, no. When I had my turn in court, I offered to take a lie-detector test or any kind of test the district attorney wanted. Mr. Steve Schiwetz, the district attorney, refused the lie-detector test. He told me, he did not want me to take a lie-detector test.

00:02:49

KB: So you took no tests whatsoever?

00:02:51

DeLuna: No tests whatsoever.

00:02:54

Courtroom sketch of a man.

DeLuna: I told my lawyers, my lawyers talked to the district attorney's office, and they refused the test.

00:02:59

Close-up of a white male in a suit and tie. He is speaking but we do not hear him.

KB: But as far as the state was concerned, this particular Carlos Hernandez didn't exist.

00:03:04

Man: Tried to get some information out of him about where does the man live, has he ever worked anywhere. It was all dead ends.

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

00:03:10

Close-up of a white female in a dress. Previous speaker continues in voice over.

Man: The thing that disproved that story was the fact that he claimed -

00:03:15

Back to the man who is speaking.

Man: - that he and Carlos Hernandez were with two women, and we found them. And we were able to disprove conclusively that they could have been with him that night.

00:03:22

Courtroom sketch of jury.

KB: And the jury didn't seem to believe the story either. They convicted DeLuna, and after an emotional presentation during the punishment phase, gave him the death penalty.

00:03:31

Back to man.

Man: He had a pretty good history of assaulting women. He'd gone to the penitentiary for attempted rape up in Dallas where he stalked a woman in a YWCA parking lot. Then a few days after he got out of the penitentiary for that on parole, he tried to rape his best friend's elderly mother and beat her up, broke a couple of her ribs. He was sent back to the penitentiary, and then, of course, within a month or two after he got out he killed.

00:03:54

Video editing room. Carlos DeLuna behind chain link on monitor. Woman facing the monitor with her back to the camera.

00:03:55

Insert: close-up of finger pressing "stop" button on VCR.

00:03:56

Close-up of TV monitor showing Carlos DeLuna's face. Zoom out to include Karen Boudrie in foreground, facing camera.

KB: Carlos DeLuna dropped out of high school when he was sixteen, and went to work as a manager of a local fast-food restaurant. He'd also planned to get married, but instead he ended up in jail for stealing a car and attempted rape. He now regrets dropping out of school, but through a new program he's getting his high-school diploma while on Death Row.

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

00:04:15

Prison visiting room, DeLuna behind chain link window, woman seated across from him.

KB: DeLuna says he takes things more seriously now, and has grown up a great deal -

00:04:20

Outdoor fenced corridor of prison, sign showing "Ellis Unit." Zoom out to include prison grounds.

KB: - since he's been at the Ellis Unit. He attributes his wrongdoings to hanging around with the wrong crowd.

00:04:26

Close-up of DeLuna's face behind chain-link.

KB: But he claims he's changed a lot.

00:04:29

Prison visiting room.

KB: Now he lives day-to-day with the thought of his appeal coming through for him.

00:04:33

DeLuna, behind chain link window.

DeLuna: Maybe one day the truth will come out, and I'm hoping it will. If I end up getting executed for this [?], I don't think it's right, you know?

00:04:42

KB: Karen Boudrie, News Watch 10.

NEW SEGMENT

00:04:48

Close-up on photograph of Wanda Lopez.

KB: 26-year-old Wanda Lopez was a cashier in a Diamond Shamrock service station in the 2600 block of South Padre Island Drive.

00:04:58

Outdoor shot of gas station, sunny.

KB: On the night of February 4th, 1983, she was working alone when she fell victim to a robbery -

00:05:04

Close-up of telephone.

KB: - and, while on the phone to a police dispatcher, she was stabbed to death.

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

00:05:08

Shot of Rene Rodriguez.

RR: A person who's going to try to rob a place or commit any kind of felony could just easily just walk in the door and pick up a counter and do whatever he or she wanted to do. She had no place to go. She was just trapped.

00:05:23

Audio of RR speaking fades out.

KB (v.o.): Attorney Rene Rodriguez was retained by the Vargas family -

00:05:26

Shot over Rodriguez's shoulder, facing a woman seated across a table.

KB: - to put together a lawsuit against Diamond Shamrock.

00:05:31

Close-up of typed page, "LOUIS G. VARGAS, JR, AND MARIA DELALUZ GOMEZ VARGAS, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF MELISSA ADELE LOPEZ, A MINOR CHILD V. DIAMOND SHAMROCK"

KB: That suit, recently filed in the 105th District Court, is a six-and-a-half million-dollar piece of litigation -

00:05:36

A series of close-ups of typed pages of legal text.

KB: - that cites eight different points of alleged negligence by Diamond Shamrock. It charges the company with failing to provide security precautions and provide protective training, failing to notify the public by placing signs in windows -

00:05:50

Outside shot of front of gas station.

KB: - indicating that employees cannot open safes, nor is there a large amount of cash at night.

00:05:55

Interior gas station, behind counter. Cash register in foreground.

KB: It also charges that the service station's interior setup makes it difficult for anyone -

00:06:00

A different outside shot of front of gas station.

KB: - outside to be able to see what's happening inside, making it susceptible to robberies.

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

00:06:05

Rene Rodriguez.

RR: Basically, the only thing she had at her disposal was a telephone. And we all know from the case that that didn't work too well.

00:06:11

Karen Boudrie.

KB: Rodriguez is currently awaiting a reply from the Diamond Shamrock corporation. Meanwhile, Carlos DeLuna is also waiting on Death Row, hoping he'll get good news about his appeal. He says he feels bad about what happened to Wanda Lopez, and also somewhat responsible because he was there. But he doesn't feel he should die for something he didn't do.

00:06:30

Carlos DeLuna behind chain-link window.

DeLuna: I just wish people would do something about it and look for somebody, look for that person, I mean, and do something about it. Because I, myself, am tired of being here. It seems like I'm just keeping the [?], being in here, worrying too much about my family, about my people, and all they're up to.

00:06:53

Close-up of Boudrie's notepad, pen, and hand on the table.

KB: What would you try to do with your life, if you got out?

00:06:56

Boudrie in profile, speaking to Carlos, whom we do not see.

DeLuna: If I was to get out? I think -

00:07:00

DeLuna.

DeLuna: - I would try to preach the word of God. Because I remember, while being here, that that's the only way I can make it now. I've said, and I've prayed, that if I were to get out, I'd preach his word.

00:07:18

KB: Karen Boudrie, News Watch 10.

(footage of a hockey game)

(footage of people smoking in restaurants)

(CNN logo, "REFEED: DENVER: NICHOLAS SENTENCING ADV. TONY CLARK

DeLuna News Archive VHS Tape from Karen Boudrie

PKG")

(footage of Terry Nichols)

(movie clips, "U.S. Marshals")

(interviews with movie actors)

(end of tape)