

SENT VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL

John Ramsey
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October 3, 2022

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
State Capitol Building
200 E. Colfax Ave., Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis:

I write today to ask that you sit down with me for a face-to-face meeting to discuss the issues raised in this letter. By speaking directly, I believe we can make more progress in an hour than has been made in decades.

As you are aware, a [petition](#) has recently been put forth requesting that you intervene in the investigation into the 1996 murder of my daughter JonBenét Ramsey. To date, there are over 26,000 signatures on this petition and the number is growing daily. In addition, this effort has received recent international media attention. From Germany and Japan to a [60 Minutes Australia](#) report with over 5 million online views, the media has done an excellent job outlining what went wrong and what can be done now. I am humbled by this overwhelming support.

The petition asks that you cause the Boulder Police Department (BPD) to move all DNA samples and crime scene evidence that may contain samples to an independent, outside agency of your choosing. This agency would then work with a private forensics lab, like [Othram](#) or [Parabon Nanolabs](#), that utilizes proven, cutting-edge technology to get these samples analyzed and sequenced. (As you may be aware, the FBI has already offered their help in facilitating this).

Once the new analysis is complete, familial DNA techniques can be used to search a much larger population than what currently exists in the CODIS database. This technique has already resulted in many cold cases being solved [in Colorado](#) and across the country. Retesting crime scene samples would also enable the resulting DNA information to be in the format necessary to use the public familial DNA database.

It's important to note that I do not ask the state to incur any expense in carrying out these new tests—they can all be privately financed.

Governor Polis, you have a beautiful daughter who is just a bit older than mine was when she was taken from us. That's why I appeal to you not just as a governor, but also as a fellow dad. Consider how it would feel to lose the thing you care most about in this world, only to be told after 25-years of waiting that, "This investigation has always been and will continue to be a priority for the Boulder Police Department."

As a dad you certainly can understand the pain, but as a politician you must understand how statements like that from BPD Chief Maris Herold ring hollow and sound like spin after all these years. We don't need more carefully worded statements, we need and deserve, decisive action.

I have been frustrated from the beginning by the refusal of the BPD to accept the outside help that's been offered to them over the years. Within days of the murder, the Denver police department offered the assistance of two experienced homicide detectives. That offer was refused. Very recently, the FBI offered to join forces with the BPD to assist with the latest DNA technology. This offer was also rejected. The BPD has also continuously refused to receive information from a dedicated group of retired homicide detectives who independently work on this case.

I am 78 now and realize that time for answers is running out. The murder of my daughter can never be undone. There will never be peace or closure. But there can and should be justice. As a community, a state, and a nation, we should demand that from ourselves and our leaders. Whoever is responsible for this has lived the last 25 years in fear of being discovered; in fear that technology would one day evolve to the point that this homicide could be solved.

That day, and that technology, are here now.

Solving the murder of my daughter will not fill the void in my heart but it will identify and remove a demented and dangerous person from our midst and, in doing so, potentially protect the lives of other children. There is no higher responsibility of a governor than that.

As an elected leader, but more importantly as a father, I respectfully ask you to do the right thing. Your office can reach me at john.ramsey@colorado.gov for scheduling.

Sincerely yours,

John Ramsey

Links included above:

Petition: <https://www.change.org/justiceforJBR>

60 Minutes Australia: <https://tinyurl.com/4xx6awuf>

Othram: <https://othram.com>

Parabon: <https://parabon-nanolabs.com>

Colorado police solve four decades-old homicide cold cases with DNA from exhumed killer:
<https://tinyurl.com/2wwnz7ee>