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# Lost DA File on Murder Angers Police

A file on an unsolved murder has been missing from the District Attorney's Office for a year, and the disclosure of the fact led the Hales Corners police chief to say Wednesday that in the future he will be very reluctant to turn over sensitive documents to the District Attorney's Office.

The absence of the file, which contained duplicates of materials in other agencies' files, was not noticed by district attorney's employes.

The file was accidentally found in a private home on the East Side last week.

The Hales Corners chief, Carl H. Jungbluth, said, "It certainly casts doubt on the reliability of the District Attorney's Office and their investigators."

## Embarrassing Incident

He said the incident of the missing file was very embarrassing to the District Attorney's Office.

The missing file was part of the district attorney's

records regarding John C. Zera, a 14 year old boy who was found murdered in Whittall Park in February of last year.

Paul Moore, then an investigator for the DA's office, carried photographs, memos, a copy of the autopsy report, and other materials to George M. Hunter, then the head of the Glendale Crime Lab.

The crime lab is a private nonprofit organization of persons who have special knowledge that may be put to use by police.

When Hunter was done with the materials, he gave them to a man who knew Moore. That man was to deliver the papers to Moore, authorities said.

## Quarrel Involved

The messenger has since told authorities that he had a quarrel with Moore and did not return the investigation file to Moore.

The file was found in the basement of an East Side home on July 5 by women

who were moving into the building. They notified police.

The messenger was not an employe of any law enforcement agency, nor was he involved in the investigation, authorities said.

Moore resigned from the DA's office about a year ago.

Jungbluth, the Hales Corners chief, charged Wednesday that Dist. Atty. E. Michael McCann did not do background checks on investigators he hired.

Deputy Dist. Atty. William Gardner, speaking for McCann, said complete checks were done. Moore was a police officer in California, worked for the US Justice Department and the Cook County (Illinois) State's Attorney's Office, Gardner said.

## 2 Departments Involved

The slain boy was from Franklin, but his body was found in Hales Corners. Both departments have been working on the case.

The Franklin chief, Norman J. Pollman, said Wednesday

that it was possible that the incident involving the file would hurt the investigation if the wrong person had seen it while it was in private hands.

Gardner acknowledged that district attorney's employes had not noticed the absence of the file during the year it was missing.

The Hales Corners and Franklin chiefs said Wednesday that the Zera case was not considered closed.