

was it bought @ Safeway?

# DA calls bear a close match

## Michigan police department has been searching for teddy bear's manufacturer since December

By Christopher Anderson  
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Prosecutors working to solve the murder of JonBenét Ramsey said Saturday that they may have found the kind of Christmas teddy bear they have been searching for since late last year.

The Boulder County District Attorney's Office also confirmed that a Michigan police department had been quietly working to find the stuffed bear since before Christmas.

Boulder County District Attorney Alex Hunter is calling a Santa bear retrieved from a Denver woman's home on Friday "a close match," spokeswoman Suzanne Laurion said Saturday.

It has been reported that the grand jury investigating JonBenét's death is interested in learning about the manufacture and sales of the Santa bear because one was found on a bed in JonBenét's bedroom near the time of her murder, but is now apparently missing. JonBenét's aunt, Pam Paugh, recently told a reporter that a note was found in a pouch the bear had tied around its waist, but search warrants do not list any such note as evidence collected at the crime scene.

Prosecutors working with the grand jury appealed for the public's help Thursday through news media and the Internet, hoping to find a similar bear. A Denver woman who saw the district attorney's appeal and photo of the bear on a television broadcast turned over her bear to officials on Friday. Officials hope the bear will lead to information about who manufactured it, when and where it was available for sale and which distributing companies shipped it.

"It appears it will give us some of this information," Laurion said.

But just in case it is not the same type of bear they were looking for, officials are still asking for all the tips they can get, Laurion said, adding there will be an announcement when prosecutors are confident they found what they needed.

Hunter and grand jury specialist Michael Kane spent part of the day in the prosecutors' "war room" Saturday reviewing the tips and other information related to the Ramsey investigation, Laurion said.

Laurion confirmed Saturday that the Coldwater Police Department in Michigan had been searching for the bear since "late last year."

A Coldwater Police Department site on the World Wide Web that included two photographs of the teddy bear — but no mention of any connection with the Ramsey case — was posted sometime before Christmas, said Coldwater police officer Charles Spring.

"Our investigators spent time looking all over, calling across the country, and we still didn't know what it was all about," Spring said.

I told Alex Hunter he shopped @ Safeway for

my food-

I think

I have

a safeway check he wrote in

Dec.

I would

have to

look to

verify

this