



IN-DEPTH.
INVESTIGATIVE.

Fingerprint helps ID suspect in 2012 burglary

By KXAN News

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Joey Ramirez

AUSTIN (KXAN) — A fingerprint left on TV helped solve a crime that happened more than two years ago.

Police were called to a home on Oct. 12, 2012 in the 1300 block of Delano Street after a man reported that someone had broken into his East Austin home through a bedroom window. A flatscreen TV and computer monitor taken from the home were found later in the back yard. A fingerprint was lifted from the television and sent to the department's crime lab.

The fingerprint was processed on Jan. 8 of this year and a match was found. The print traced back to 31-year-old Joey Rangel Ramirez, court documents said.

An arrest warrant was issued for Ramirez and bond was set at \$50,000.

Fingerprints taken from crimes sit untouched for months

Tucked inside an office in the Austin Police Department Crime Lab sits a rather ordinary looking metal file cabinet. But inside of it sits evidence to nearly 1,500 crimes in the city. That evidence comes in the form of thousands of sheets of paper containing fingerprints which were lifted from the crime scene. The evidence could potentially be the key to finding a suspect for each of those crimes.

But even if the key to solving a given crime is right there on paper, most of those fingerprints will sit in the metal file cabinet for months.

In November, [KXAN examined the backlog of cases \(http://kxan.com/2014/11/23/fingerprints-taken-from-crimes-sit-untouched-for-months/\)](http://kxan.com/2014/11/23/fingerprints-taken-from-crimes-sit-untouched-for-months/) the department is dealing with and what is being done to address the issue.

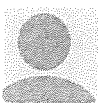
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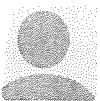
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he's got weird ears and he needs to shave off that pubic hair on his face.

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His starboard eye has a bit of a list to port as well.

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