

## **Sean Vincent Gillis, "Token" Serial Killer**

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Residents of Baton Rouge were living in fear due to the numerous brutal unsolved homicides which appeared to be linked. Police had named Derrick Todd Lee as the suspect, and his subsequent arrest allowed the residents of the city to breathe a sigh of relief. The relief was short lived, however, when additional violent homicides were occurring while Derrick Todd Lee was in prison. Given the vicious nature of the crimes and the similar conditions of the victims, law enforcement personnel in Baton Rouge clearly had two separate serial killers operating at the same time within the city. In a matter of months additional homicide victims were found which had sustained substantial post mortem cutting and dismemberment. A multi-agency task force was formed specifically to resolve these murders. Random lone hairs found in various places on the victim's bodies were all consistent with having originated from the same suspect. After combing through the physical evidence, the last crime scene yielded a tire track leading away from the body. This tire track eventually proved to be the most important link to the suspect as it was a specific tire sold to only 100 or so people within the area. Law enforcement personnel submitted a reference swab from the suspect which eventually tied him to three victims through DNA. After his arrest, Sean Vincent Gillis admitted to murdering 8 different women, crimes which were substantiated by him revealing where the bodies were located and the method by which they were killed. A subsequent search of his home and camera yielded pictures where he had murdered the women and kept them for hours to days, posing them in various positions, sexually assaulting them post mortem, and dismembering them. He was sentenced to life in prison after the jury was deadlocked in the penalty phase.