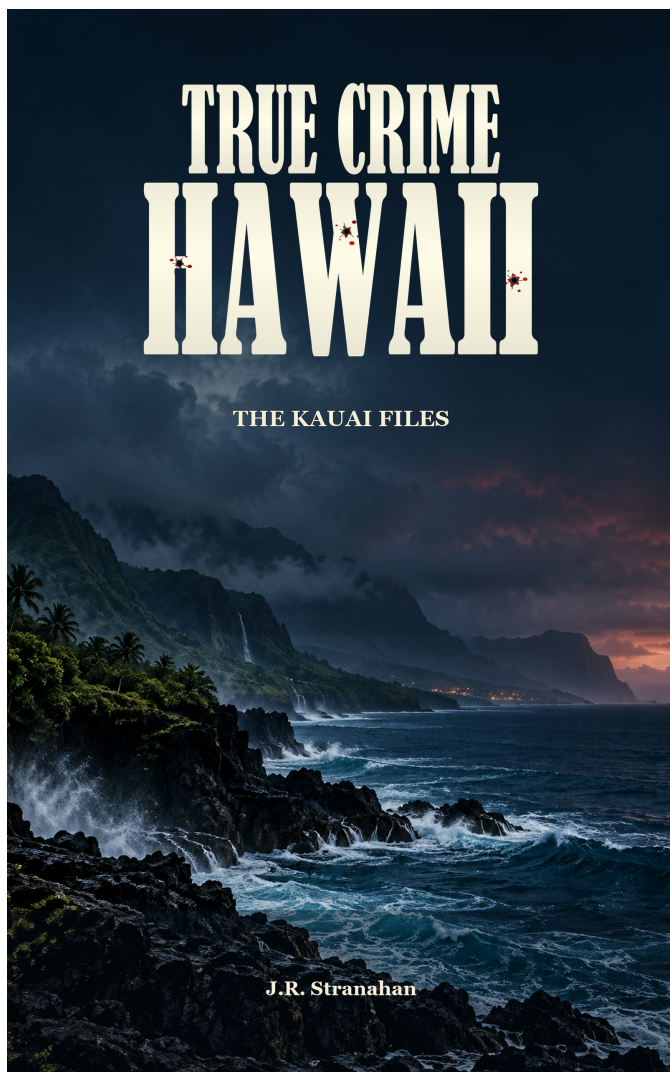


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File 1: The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman

Place and period: Hanalei, 1979-present

Present legal status: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

This file belongs first to Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents. The public record is necessarily organized around investigation and adjudication, but a criminal case is not the measure of a life. The account uses the available record to describe what happened and how institutions responded, while avoiding invented biography where sources are silent.

The human scale

Featherman was found shot in his Hanalei residence in June 1979. That fact is the fixed point for this portion of The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. In Hanalei, later retellings sometimes collapse the investigation and the judgment into one continuous story. The public record does not. It preserves the order in which information appeared and the forum in which it was tested. The present legal posture is stated separately: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

For Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents, the procedural vocabulary cannot be allowed to eclipse consequence. The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. The detail belongs here because it changes the chronology, not because it supplies atmosphere. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. Keeping that boundary

visible lets the reader understand both the institutional response and the loss that made the response necessary.

The 1979-present record from Hanalei contains a point that resists shorthand: The file remains open, so any named-person theory requires attribution and cannot be written as a verdict. The present legal posture is equally specific: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. One proposition may be established while a neighboring proposition remains disputed. Treating them separately is not hesitation; it is accurate reporting.

A headline can make this episode appear settled in a sentence. The underlying record is narrower. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. From there, the inquiry moves through source, timing, corroboration, and legal consequence. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. None of those steps authorizes invented dialogue or a claim about what Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents privately thought.

Location matters in this file. Hanalei determined which agencies, courts, and communities carried the case, while 1979-present marks the span over which the public learned it. The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. The result is a chronology with identifiable custodians rather than a collection of free-floating claims.

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: Featherman was found shot in his Hanalei residence in June 1979. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. Begin

with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

The case file gives different kinds of information different weight. The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. A contemporaneous observation, a laboratory result, a charging allegation, and an appellate finding do not perform the same job. Begin with the person harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community that had to live with the absence. Describing those jobs plainly is especially important when the story concerns Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents.

The first account

By the time The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman reached public memory, sequence had become easy to lose. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. Restoring sequence shows what investigators knew, what prosecutors alleged, what the defense contested, and what a court or jury ultimately resolved. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. An older headline cannot replace the current status: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

There is no need to enlarge the evidence to make this file serious. The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. That proposition is consequential on its own. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. The account therefore avoids borrowing certainty from unrelated defendants, other jurisdictions, or later cases that happen to resemble events in Hanalei.

The public record speaks most reliably when attribution travels with the claim. Here is the supported proposition: Featherman was found shot in his Hanalei residence in June 1979. The source may recount an allegation, summarize trial proof, or state a judgment, and the language must match that function. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. That practice protects the accuracy of the case and the dignity of Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents at the same time.

At this stage of the file, absence is also information. The available materials establish this much: The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. They do not establish every rumor that accumulated during 1979-present. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. Refusing to bridge those gaps with speculation keeps the unresolved portions visible instead of disguising them as narrative momentum.

Consider the detail in its proper scale: The file remains open, so any named-person theory requires attribution and cannot be written as a verdict. It is neither disposable nor self-executing. Its force depends on where it sits among the other records from Hanalei. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. A measured account can explain that relationship without turning legal caution into a repetitive disclaimer.

The language of this chapter changes when the legal posture changes. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. If the proposition came from an accusation, it remains attributed; if it survived adjudication, the judgment is named; if review altered the result, the alteration is carried forward. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. The controlling endpoint is recorded separately: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

What happened to Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents generated records made for different audiences: investigators, lawyers, judges, jurors, officials, and the public. The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. Those records overlap, but they are not interchangeable. Separate what witnesses reported at the time from what investigators later inferred. Reading across them carefully prevents a later summary from erasing an earlier uncertainty or a later reversal.

Building a chronology

The most useful context is the context that changes interpretation. The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. In the Hanalei record, that detail helps explain why a particular investigative or legal step followed. Dates and sequence matter because later knowledge can make early decisions seem more certain than they were. General crime lore would add volume but not understanding, so it is left outside the account.

The end of a proceeding is not always the end of a case's public life. The file remains open, so any named-person theory requires attribution and cannot be written as a verdict. Families, institutions, and communities continued to live with the result after 1979-present. Dates and sequence matter because later knowledge can make early decisions seem more certain than they were. The legal status is reported in its own terms: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it. It does not imply that every question or consequence disappeared.

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Physical evidence

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. Describe what an item could establish and what it could not establish without additional proof. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

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Witness evidence

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Digital and documentary trails

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The 1979-present record from Hanalei contains a point that resists shorthand: The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the

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Location matters in this file. Hanalei determined which agencies, courts, and communities carried the case, while 1979-present marks the span over which the public learned it. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. Records can preserve timing and contact, but interpretation still depends on context and authentication. The result is a chronology with identifiable custodians rather than a collection of free-floating claims.

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. Records can preserve timing and contact, but interpretation still depends on context and authentication. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

The case file gives different kinds of information different weight. Featherman was found shot in his Hanalei residence in June 1979. A contemporaneous observation, a laboratory result, a charging allegation, and an appellate finding do not perform the same job. Records can preserve timing and context, but interpretation still depends on context and authentication. Describing those jobs plainly is especially important when the story concerns Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents.

Charging choices

By the time The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman reached public memory, sequence had become easy to lose. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. Restoring sequence shows what investigators knew, what prosecutors alleged, what the defense contested, and what a court or jury ultimately resolved. An indictment states allegations; a plea or verdict resolves only the counts and defendants actually adjudicated. An older headline cannot replace the current status: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

There is no need to enlarge the evidence to make this file serious. The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. That proposition is consequential on its own. An indictment states allegations; a plea or verdict resolves only the counts and defendants actually adjudicated. The account therefore avoids borrowing certainty from unrelated defendants, other jurisdictions, or later cases that happen to resemble events in Hanalei.

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The courtroom

What happened to Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents generated records made for different audiences: investigators, lawyers, judges, jurors, officials, and the public. The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. Those records overlap, but they are not interchangeable. A trial is structured proof under rules, not a complete replay of every event or every rumor surrounding it. Reading across them carefully prevents a later summary from erasing an earlier uncertainty or a later reversal.

The most useful context is the context that changes interpretation. The file remains open, so any named-person theory requires attribution and cannot be written as a verdict. In the Hanalei record, that detail helps explain why a particular investigative or legal step followed. A trial is structured proof under rules, not a complete replay of every event or every rumor surrounding it. General crime lore would add volume but not understanding, so it is left outside the account.

The end of a proceeding is not always the end of a case's public life. The controlling record places this file in Hanalei; facts and outcomes from other island cases are not silently imported. Families, institutions, and communities continued to live with the result after 1979-present. A trial is structured proof under rules, not a complete replay of every event or every rumor surrounding it. The legal status is reported in its own terms: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it. It does not imply that every question or consequence disappeared.

The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. That fact is the fixed point for this portion of The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman. A trial is structured proof under rules, not a complete replay of every event or every rumor surrounding it. In Hanalei, later retellings sometimes collapse the investigation and the judgment into one continuous story.

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Appeal and review

A headline can make this episode appear settled in a sentence. The underlying record is narrower. The account separates documented events, attributed allegations, trial findings, appellate rulings, and unresolved questions. From there, the inquiry moves through source, timing, corroboration, and legal consequence. An appellate court tests legal error and the governing record, not whether judges would retell the case the same way. None of those steps authorizes invented dialogue or a claim about what Paul 'Sonny' Featherman, Nancy Baugh, their families, and Hanalei residents privately thought.

Location matters in this file. Hanalei determined which agencies, courts, and communities carried the case, while 1979-present marks the span over which the public learned it. Featherman was found shot in his Hanalei residence in June 1979. An appellate court tests legal error and the governing record, not whether judges would retell the case the same way. The result is a chronology with identifiable custodians rather than a collection of free-floating claims.

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: The county prosecutor's cold-case record preserves the known chronology and invites new information. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. An appellate court tests legal error and the governing record, not whether judges would retell the case the same way. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it.

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Uncertainty

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Institutions

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Status at manuscript lock

The controlling status for this account is: Kauai County lists the homicide as a cold case; no murder conviction resolves it. That sentence is deliberately narrower than a television summary. It does not merge co-defendants, convert accusations into findings, or imply that an appeal erased a human death. Later proceedings may change the legal posture, but they should not be projected backward onto the record described here.

Sources from the edition

The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman

- The Hanalei Murder of Paul Featherman record: <https://www.kauai.gov/Government/Departments-Agencies/Prosecuting-Attorney/Cold-Cases> -
Hawaii appellate decisions: <https://law.justia.com/cases/hawaii/>

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