

# IBIS LINK LEADS TO CONVICTION – A HOUSTON STORY



Houston Police investigate an aggravated robbery during which a firearm was discharged. They find cartridge case evidence from the crime scene. The Houston Police lab enters the evidence into the NIBIN network.

Houston Police investigate the robbery of a convenience store in which the two store clerks were murdered. They find only bullet and cartridge case evidence. The Houston Police lab enters the evidence into the NIBIN network.

Houston Police investigate the murder of a male security guard. They find bullet and cartridge case evidence. The Houston Police lab enters the evidence into the NIBIN network.

Using IBIS technology and the NIBIN network, the Lab is able to determine that the three crimes were linked through the same firearm – a .40 caliber Smith and Wesson pistol.



With this information, the Houston Police Crime Analysis Unit looks at other robberies in which a .40 caliber pistol was used. They find an aggravated robbery that occurred four months earlier that might fit the pattern.

With this new information, they learn that victim had been robbed of his wallet and credit card at gunpoint. In that crime too, a firearm had been discharged and a .40 caliber cartridge case was recovered at the scene. The Houston Police Lab linked this crime to the other three.

With all four crimes linked through a common firearm, Houston Detectives were able to leverage the information from each. They pursued the information about the stolen credit card. They are able track its attempted use and identify two suspects. One suspect confesses to involvement in the murder of the security guard.

When police arrest the second suspect they find the instrument of all four crimes—in his apartment—the Smith & Wesson .40 caliber pistol. The suspect was charged and subsequently convicted of capital murder. He was sentenced to death.