STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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OCME Circus Press Release 2/10/20

The anthropology examination and dental comparisons of the remains of the unidentified circus fire victims have excluded Grace Dorothy (Smith) Fifield as either of the two exhumed remains. Mitochondrial DNA testing was successfully performed at the Connecticut Division of Scientific Services but the results have not, at this point, allowed for any further identifications. With the assistance of the DNA Doe Project, attempts at nuclear DNA extraction have begun. If nuclear DNA is recovered, an ancestry investigation will be done. This is anticipated to take several months.

Most likely, the remains of Grace Dorothy (Smith) Fifield were originally misidentified and released to the wrong next-of-kin. If the two exhumed women can be identified, it may help find what happened to Grace Dorothy (Smith) Fifield.

Anthropological examinations of the two exhumed remains determined: One set of remains is consistent with a 25-45 year old African (Black) woman who stood approximately 5'7".

One set of remains is consistent with a 20-50 year old European (White) woman who stood approximately 5'4".