



HONORING TRAILBLAZERS



**Jana Monroe, Assistant Director,
FBI (retired)
First female profiler in the FBI's
Behavioral Analysis Unit
First Assistant Director of the FBI
Cyber Division in Washington D.C.**

When local homicide detectives in St. Petersburg, Florida, hit a dead end tracking down the individual who killed Ohio mom Joan Rogers and her two teenage daughters in 1989, Jana Monroe came up with an idea that led to a break in the case. At the time, Monroe was the first female FBI agent to win a coveted spot with the agency's Behavioral Sciences Unit, or BSU.

In her memoir *Hearts of Darkness: Serial Killers*, the Behavioral Science Unit, and *My Life as a Woman in the FBI*, Monroe recounts how, in 1992, she suggested blowing up an image of a handwritten note with directions to the boat dock found in Rogers' car where she and her family were last seen. The picture was then plastered on billboards with a message asking people to contact St. Petersburg police if they recognized the handwriting.

Within 48 hours, police had their suspect: a 46-year-old contractor named Oba Chandler. He was arrested, charged, and convicted of the murders of Rogers and her children. In 1994, he was sentenced to death and executed in 2011.

Monroe set out to prove her doubters wrong when she joined the FBI in the early 1970s, shortly after the agency first allowed women to become special agents. According to her book *Hearts of Darkness*, published October 10, 2023, Monroe fought hard to earn the respect of male colleagues and worked on high-profile unsolved cases across the country during her BSU assignment.

She profiled serial, mass, and spree killers for local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Monroe also provided Jodie Foster with insights about being a female special agent to help the actor in her role as Clarice Starling, the FBI trainee who seeks guidance from cannibal serial killer Hannibal Lecter in the film *Silence of the Lambs*. Before retiring from the FBI in 2006, she oversaw the Bureau's Los Angeles and Phoenix offices and served as the first assistant director of the cybercrimes unit.

.Read the Interview with Movie Channel, True Crime, A&E

<https://www.aetv.com/real-crime/jana-monroe-fbi>

.Read about her book, the *Hearts of Darkness*

<https://deadline.com/2023/08/jana-monroe-fbi-agent-hearts-of-darkness-author-signs-rain-1235526650/>

.C-SPAN Video, 2004

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?183263-1/internet-solicitation-crimes>