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Missing: Billy Smolinski

Disappeared From Conn. Home Three Years Ago After Breaking Up With Girlfriend

2007



Billy Smolinski (**CBS/The Early Show**)

(CBS) Each week, the **CBS** drama **Without a Trace** profiles a real missing person at the end of the show and, the next morning, **The Early Show** gives details on the case.

Check here for numbers to call if you have any information on the possible whereabouts of any of the people shown.

Friday, Sept. 14, 2007

BILLY SMOLINSKI

We first told you about Billy Smolinski a year ago. He disappeared from his Waterbury, Conn. home in August, 2004 after breaking up with his girlfriend.

CBS News Correspondent Bianca Solorzano got an update from investigators, and the missing man's family.

Smolinski was 31 when he vanished.

He had just returned from a trip to Florida with his girlfriend. The next night, he told his sister that his girlfriend was having an affair with a local politician. They argued and broke up.

Smolinski's sister, Paula Bell recalls that, "I said, 'Well, what are you going to do' And he just said, 'What am I going to do?'"

Authorities say Smolinski was last seen at his home. His next-door neighbor says he asked him to watch his dog for a few days, because he was headed north to look at a car he wanted to buy. His truck was found in his driveway, his keys and wallet were under his front seat.

That, says Solorzano, is where Smolinski's trail ends.

The FBI calls it a difficult case.

"Essentially," says Special Agent Bill Aldenberg, "the man just disappeared off the face of the Earth."

He says there's been no sign of Smolinski but, "There are suspects, based on tips and based on interviews and based on investigations that we've conducted."

The bureau was tipped off and, in the spring, searched in Shelton, about 20 miles from Waterbury. Agents looked for evidence near several homes, dug up a driveway, and also searched near a river, but found nothing.

The Smolinskis, Solorzano points out, have never stopped searching.

They posted thousands of missing person flyers but, in a strange twist, found Smolinski's ex-girlfriend tearing them down.

At the time, local police say, she was not a suspect.

To see Solorzano's complete report, [click here](#).

If you know anything about Billy Smolinski's disappearance, please call the FBI in New Haven, Conn. at (203) 777-6311.
