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No, Mr. Neulander

A setback for former Rabbi Fred Neulander's appeal

By [Karen Araiza](#) | Friday, Jun 26, 2009 | Updated 5:45 PM EST

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It took five years for Neulander to be indicted in his wife's murder.

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No, Mr. Neulander, that was wishful thinking.

[Fred Neulander's](#) attorneys won't get access to records from the investigation into his wife's murder.

If the Neulander name vaguely rings a bell, he's the former South Jersey Rabbi who hired two men to murder his wife so he could carry on an affair with a woman he counseled, then courted at his synagogue. His attorneys asked for the records during a "post conviction relief" hearing on Friday. They are trying again to appeal his murder-for-hire conviction. A Judge turned down the request for those records. Neulander was not in court for the hearing.

[Carol Neulander](#) was killed inside her [Cherry Hill](#) home in 1994. She was on the phone with daughter when she answered a knock at the door. The two men said they knew her husband so she let them in. One smashed her skull with a pipe. The other continued to beat her to make sure she was dead.

Fred Neulander came home from his synagogue that night to find Carol in a pool of blood and made a frantic call to 9-1-1.

The news of her murder stunned people in the community. Neulander was a well-liked and very charismatic man, although there were consistent rumblings about his attraction to other women.

Neulander was tried twice. The first trial ended with a hung jury. Two of the couple's children testified against their father. He was ultimately convicted and sentenced to 30 years to life in prison.