

February 28, 2022 (updated)

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** File

**FROM:** Dan E. Moldea

**SUBJECT:** Phillip Moscato Jr. and The History Channel

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**Phillip Moscato Sr.**

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**Phillip Moscato Jr.**

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Tonight at 9:00 PM, The History Channel will broadcast an hour-long program, “The Disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa.”<sup>1</sup> . . . I am not involved in this project, and I really don’t know what will be presented.

What I do know from the show’s trailer is that Phillip Moscato Jr.—the son of the late Phillip Moscato Sr., a soldier in the Vito Genovese crime family, with whom I had a series of breathtaking exclusive interviews about Hoffa’s murder between 2007 and 2014—will claim on the program that he is the only person alive who knows the location of Hoffa’s body.

But, before this show airs, I want to make seven points clear:

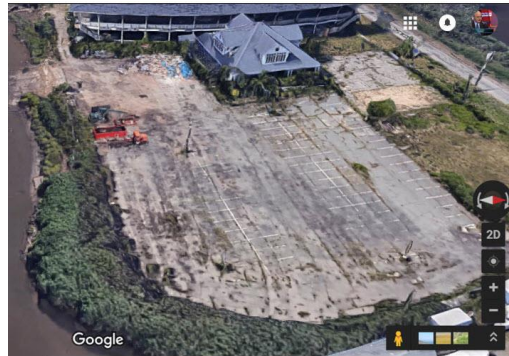
1) After Moscato Sr. died in February 2014, I was responsible for bringing Moscato Jr. into the Hoffa fray after his father told him shortly before his death, “Trust Dan Moldea.” . . . Moscato Jr., whom I interviewed for over 60 hours between 2014 and 2019, added, “My dad thought you were a gentleman, and a man of your word, all the way down the line. That’s what he said.”

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://play.history.com/shows/historys-greatest-mysteries/season-3/episode-2>

2) However, apart from revealing his connection to the late Vincent Ravo, a notorious organized-crime figure in New Jersey, Moscato Jr. did not tell me everything he knew—because he wanted to get paid for his information. And I was insisting that no one on my team would accept any money from any media organization until Hoffa’s body was recovered and positively identified by the FBI. . . . And, notably, I continue to stand by that principle to this day.

3) In or about 2018, based on the clues Moscato Jr. gave me, I determined that he believed that the body was buried in an abandoned parking lot in the Meadowlands. As part of my investigation, I collected land records and photographs of the property. But my discovery caused unexpected problems between Moscato Jr. and me.



The parking lot at 200 Outwater Lane in Carlstadt, New Jersey

4) Long story short, Moscato Jr. took Eric Shawn of Fox News and me to that location in September 2019. But, at that time and for reasons of his own, Moscato Jr. told me that he did not want to cooperate with the law-enforcement community. Hearing that, I simply lost interest in his story. . . . I will be curious to hear what Moscato Jr. says tonight.



At the parking lot, 200 Outwater Lane, Carlstadt  
(l-r) Eric Shawn, Phillip Moscato Jr, Dan Moldea  
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5) To be clear, the current FBI investigation—in the aftermath of its court-authorized search last October of a location near the PJP Landfill, aka “Brother Moscato’s Dump” in Jersey City—is based on the information I collected from Frank Cappola, the oldest son of the late Paul Cappola, Moscato Sr’s partner in PJP.

6) At my request, Frank, who died in March 2020, executed a sworn declaration on October 7, 2019, detailing how and why his father—at the direction of Moscato Sr.—buried Hoffa’s body.<sup>2</sup> . . . It is that affidavit that is the key piece of evidence in the FBI’s current probe.

7) As those close to me know, I have never expressed anything but total respect for Moscato Sr. and his devoted wife, as well as for Moscato Jr., with whom I have not spoken in nearly two years. . . . To be clear, I am here protecting my story about Frank Cappola.<sup>3</sup>

**POST-SHOW UPDATE:** After crashing and burning with his infamous parking-lot caper in September 2019, Phillip Moscato Jr. then trashed the late Frank Cappola’s information about the site of Jimmy Hoffa’s unmarked grave at PJP during his conversations with me in 2019 and even in 2020 after Frank’s death.

But, after rendering himself as completely irrelevant in the search for Hoffa, Moscato Jr. has now cynically and shamelessly hijacked Frank’s version of events—with his dramatically revised claim that his father told him that Hoffa’s body is exactly where Frank stated in the sworn declaration he executed at my request on October 7, 2019.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See: <https://themobmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2019-10-07-Declaration-of-Frank-Cappola-Final.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See: [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=3068156750068849&id=100006236621784](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=3068156750068849&id=100006236621784)

<sup>4</sup> As promised, I did not write about my 2007-2014 interviews with Phillip Moscato Sr., including those that were recorded, until after his death. I published my first story on July 30, 2015, the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hoffa’s murder, revealing that, according to Moscato Sr., Hoffa was buried at PJP, aka Brother Moscato’s Dump.

See: Dan E. Moldea, *Gang Land News*, “The disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa: Forty years later,” July 30, 2015. <https://www.moldea.com/Hoffa-40.html>

A news story about my article was featured that same day under a banner headline in the *New York Daily News*.

See: John Marzulli, *New York Daily News*, “EXCLUSIVE: NEW EVIDENCE EMERGES ON JIMMY HOFFA’S POSSIBLE FATE, SUGGESTS FEDS WERE ON RIGHT TRACK SEARCHING N.J. DUMP,” July 30, 2015. <https://www.nydailynews.com/news/crime/exclusive-new-evidence-emerges-jimmy-hoffa-fate-article-1.2308877>

At the time of publication of these stories—seventeen months after his father’s death—Phillip Moscato Jr. did not tell me that this was consistent with what his father had supposedly told him on his deathbed.

During a conversation with me on May 9, 2017, Moscato Jr. boasted: “I can give you the fucking plot, the land and the plot, where it is. I can tell you exactly where it is.”

However, instead of pinpointing the PJP Landfill as the site identified by his father, Moscato, Jr. opted for the now-discredited parking-lot theory.

It appears that the more Moscato Jr. learned from Frank Cappola’s 2019 affidavit and the reaction in its aftermath, the more he claimed that his father told him in 2014.

However, instead of crediting Frank, Moscato Jr. has embraced the story as his own without even mentioning Frank.

Choosing to ignore that the FBI's current investigation is based on Frank's affidavit, The History Channel was a knowing accomplice to Phil's false claims.

I look forward to telling the entire story.

**JULY 30, 2022:** Moscato Jr. appeared on Fox News and was interviewed by Eric Shawn.

Nine days earlier, on July 21, the Associated Press and the *New York Times* broke the news that the FBI had conducted its second search of the alcove under the Pulaski Skyway in Jersey City. However, the evidence collected by federal agents yielded no indication that Hoffa was buried at the site.

Here is a portion of the segment:

*Eric Shawn:* Phil, always good to see you. Are you surprised that at least for now the search turned up empty a few weeks ago?

*Phillip Moscato Jr:* Absolutely not. I've been saying from day one when all the story came out, that I strongly believe that. . . . Parts of the story, obviously, Frankie isn't here to back anything up. And I do believe that he may have known something. And I've been saying from day one, part of the claim is true, it was originally there. I've also quoted and stated to you numerous different times that the remains were moved as a part to get rid of it when the FBI did go there and search in '70, I believe in '75, if I'm not mistaken. Ralph Picardo had told the FBI, "That's where he was buried." So no, I'm not surprised at all that it came up empty. . . .

*Shawn:* Have you ever told anybody? I mean, there's not just our Fox Nation series, but also other reporting, and the History Channel has a documentary on that site. Did you ever tell them that you think that the body is there and if you ever made that claim to others about this?

*Moscato Jr:* No. When I agreed to do that interview on that show, I told them plain and simple I would not be giving them anything whatsoever about the location of the remains. When they went ahead and aired it, I was in complete awe, how they insinuated and changed the story around that I did tell them that the remains were there. That section of that series, that show, is 100% false. I did not say anything to the History Channel whatsoever about where the remains were, as I've not said anything to anybody at this point. . . .

Now that it's over, there are no remains there as I've said from day one, when his story did come out. Me and you have spoken outside of the show a couple times in the past few weeks, let's move forward. Let's get this location. I think in the next month or two between me and you, we're going to sit down, get this ironed out with Fox News, I'm going to get you guys a location. We're going to investigate the last little part of this. And I want you to move forward. . . .

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/fbi-give-up-effort-solve-disappearance-jimmy-hoffa>