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Man convicted of killing waitress talks of other killing

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DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) -- A man convicted of killing a Des Moines waitress reportedly told authorities about another killing after he was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

Roberto Rodriquez Perez was sentenced Wednesday for the April 14 slaying of Connie Sue Osburn at a Denny's restaurant.

Perez was convicted of first-degree murder last month. After he was sentenced, he reportedly told Polk County deputies that he also killed a woman at a hotel.

Authorities confirmed that a West Des Moines police officer and a Polk County prosecutor then questioned Perez to see whether he was referring to the slaying of Mariana Redrovan at the Best Western Walnut Creek Inn in West Des Moines, Redrovan, a 15-year-old Ecuadorean maid, was killed in January 1998.

“We have nothing to link him to the crime,” West Des Moines police Sgt. Lee Hart said. “We are aware of his statement, but now we have nothing concrete, nothing to corroborate.”

Perez's credibility has been questioned before. In the Osburn case, he told police he was Dee Jay Gottsch. The real Gottsch, police say, is a Nebraska man who had been reported missing in Nebraska in 1996.

Investigators have said that Redrovan's slaying may be linked to the unsolved slaying of another hotel maid in the Des Moines area.

Zurijeta Sakanovic, a 21-year-old Bosnian refugee, was stabbed and strangled at the Budgetel Inn in Clive in September 1997.