

# He's just a hoaxter, not killer

A lot of the evidence is still a mystery, but the case against John Mark Karr on charges he murdered JonBenet Ramsey is beginning to take shape. The Post asked a trio of prominent New York defense lawyers to look at the known evidence against Karr so far, and what they think of the prosecution's case.

## JOE TACOPINA



I truly suspect that John Mark Karr is not a murderer, but a sociopath.

If I represented him, I would get him to a shrink immediately.

This case will not hinge on his statement to authorities — there are so many things in it lacking in credibility.

He said the murder was an accident, but JonBenet Ramsey's head was bashed in.

There are reports Karr said he drugged her with chloroform, but there was no evidence of that.

When pressed by the press, Karr provided no details that were not previously known.

And his ex-wife, who probably wishes him dead, provided an alibi for him.

The case will hinge on the DNA found beneath JonBenet's fingernails and the

handwriting on the ransom note.

If the unknown male DNA is Karr's — then bingo, he's the killer and only a psychological defense could get him off.

If it's not his DNA, while it wouldn't exclude him automatically as the killer, it would be pretty hard to build a case against him.

I get the distinct impression that this is a really bad guy, a pedophile obsessed with the JonBenet case and the Polly Klaas case.

I think it's going to turn out to be a big hoax.

The only thing Karr is guilty of probably is obstruction of justice.

The Boulder, Colo., district attorney is doing the right thing, bringing Karr back to the U.S. and continuing the



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investigation. After all, he's confessed.

But it needs to be corroborated by DNA, handwriting or other evidence.

The crime scene was one of the most botched in history — they let the body be moved, people walked up and down the stairs. It will render any forensics in the case questionable.

John Mark Karr is a sick puppy trying to latch onto his 15 minutes of fame. His confession is a hoax. The case against him is obviously not provable.

Joseph Tacopina is a prominent criminal defense attorney whose clients have included singer Foxy Brown and former NYPD Commissioner Bernard Kerik.