

Ex-officer says he failed to verify Summers' alibi

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CHINO — The chief investigator in a murder case testified Tuesday that, during the investigation, he was aware of the defendant's alibi but did little, if anything, to verify the man's story.

Roy Summers, who is on trial in the murder of his ex-wife in San Bernardino and the kidnapping two of her children, claims he was in Utah the day before the crimes were committed.

The slaying of Beverly Wise and

the disappearance of her children — Brandi and Tiffani — has been described by police as the most extensive investigation in San Bernardino's history.

Former San Bernardino Police Detective Don Meyer, who in 1979 was the chief investigator on the case, told a Superior Court jury that he was aware of Summer's alibi when he entered the case.

But, under questioning by defense attorney Timothy Guhin, Meyer conceded that he failed to verify witness statements that

placed Summers in Newcastle, Utah — nearly 500 miles away from the San Bernardino crime scene.

Helen and Anthony Anzalone, of Lake Zurich, Ill., later told the jury that they met Summers in the afternoon of March 29, 1977.

Asked if she could be mistaken about seeing Summers at her niece's home, Mrs. Anzalone told the lawyer, "There's no doubt in my mind at all."

She said she remembered the day vividly because she and her

husband were attending a convention in Las Vegas, Nev., and because they rented a car especially for the Utah visit.

Her testimony was buttressed when the lawyer presented a photocopy of the car rental agreement.

At the home of their niece, a former wife of Summers, they said they met Summers for the first time. After chatting with the relatives, Mrs. Anzalone said, they

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