

Daughter Used AI Videos to Hide Mother's Murder, Ecuador Police Say



Andreína Solís showed police videos of her mother. The footage appeared to show 49-year-old Martha Cecilia Solís Cruz speaking and telling the police that she was fine.

But the videos weren't real, and the audio was a deepfake voice clone. Apparently Andreína had dressed up in her mother's clothes and then used the deepfake audio to perfect the deepfake.

After an investigation, Police in Guayaquil, Ecuador, discovered the AI audio and video clips had been created using artificial intelligence after her mother's dismembered body was found inside a washing machine and blue barrel at the home she shared with her 32-year-old daughter.

The case shows how readily available AI technology can be misused in criminal investigations. Solís eventually confessed to killing her mom after police confronted her with evidence.

A Disappearance After a Family Gathering

Cruz was last seen alive at a family event on Oct. 5. Her relatives reported her missing the next day when they couldn't reach her.

For 10 days, Solís tried to convince investigators her mother was alive. She presented the videos showing Cruz speaking to cameras. The clips looked authentic enough that police initially investigated them as potential evidence.

"She did it to avoid leaving traces," the investigators said, explaining how Solís used technology to buy time while she figured out how to dispose of the body. "She couldn't go to a gas station or a hotel, where she would have been recorded by security cameras."

She Dressed Up As Her Mom And Rented A Room

Solís also tried a more traditional form of deception. She rented a room in town for just one day, arriving dressed as her mother and leaving in her own clothes. The move was meant to create a trail suggesting Cruz was still alive and moving around the city.

That rental became the break in the case. "When we verified that she had rented a room in a house for just one day, knowing she had her own house, we knew something didn't add up," the investigators told reporters.

Police found conflicting details in Solís's statements during questioning. When they checked security footage and witness accounts, they realized the AI videos couldn't have been real.

The body was discovered cut into six pieces.

According to reports in Ecuadorian media, Solís strangled her mother with a phone charging cable during an argument over money. Cruz, a lawyer in Guayaquil, had refused to give her daughter \$6,000.

First Case Of AI Being Used To Cover Up Violent Crime

The Ecuador case represents one of the first known instances where someone used AI-generated video to cover up a violent crime. Police are now examining Solís's phone for more evidence and to determine whether she may have harmed others.

"I believe there may be more victims," Muñoz said. "This case is spectacular from an investigative point of view. The woman has psychopathic traits: coldness, calculation, and manipulation."

The AI videos were convincing enough that police spent valuable investigative time verifying them before realizing they were fakes. That delay gave Solís more time to try covering up other aspects of the crime including getting rid of the body.