



Office of the State Attorney
Twentieth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida
Proudly Serving
Charlotte - Collier - Glades - Hendry - Lee

Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



In This Edition:

Page 1

*** Major Convictions**

Page 2

*** Major Convictions**

Page 3

***Major Convictions**

Page 4

***Guilty Verdicts**

Page 5

***Anniversaries
*Sometimes They Make It Easy....**

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Quick Murder Verdict

A Naples jury returned a guilty verdict in only 22 minutes against Kevin Risner for Second Degree Murder. Risner murdered the victim by shooting her once in the stomach and twice in the back of the head.

The defendant took the gun from the victim's parents' house. The gun was even engraved with the victim's mother's name. After killing the victim, the defendant called the victim's stepfather and told him he had just killed his daughter and was going to shoot himself. He did shoot himself, but obviously survived.

Assistant State Attorneys Deborah Cunningham and Ashli Stewart handled the case.

Fort Myers Murder Verdict

After only 35 minutes a Lee County jury came back with a guilty verdict of Second Degree Murder with a Firearm against Jerome Parrish. The case involved two friends who had a falling out. A physical fight led to a more serious fight later with the defendant shooting the victim in the cheek at a Fort Myers apartment complex. The gunshot proved fatal to the victim.

Assistant State Attorney Andreas Gardiner of our Homicide Unit and Connie Serrano handled the case.



Jerome Parrish

Manslaughter Case

Ann Strum plead no contest to Manslaughter with a Firearm in a Lee County courtroom. She was sentenced to 11 years in prison followed by 19 years of probation. There is also a special condition that she receive a mental health status evaluation by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist. She must do so each month while on probation.

Assistant State Attorney Dan Feinberg of our Homicide Unit handled the case.



Ann Strum

Battery Case

Jose Reyna was found guilty of Burglary with Battery and Resisting an Officer without Violence. The case was tried by Assistant State Attorneys Kate Rumley and Lisa Mead from our Naples office. The defendant is a registered Sexual Offender.

In this case, he went into the home of an older woman who was sleeping in the middle of the day. She woke up to him fondling her. She struggled free, started screaming and he ran. He was caught nearby by police.



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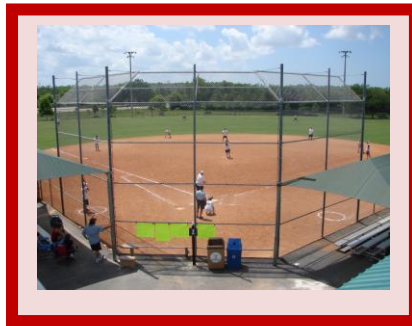
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Law Enforcement Softball Tournament

The 11th Annual State Attorney's Office Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Softball Tournament is May 11th, 2013. All of the proceeds from the event go to support Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers.

If you are interested in being a business sponsor or donating items for our raffle, please contact Samantha Syoen, Communications Director for the State Attorney's Office at 239-533-1125.



Learning About the State Attorney's Office

Staff members of the State Attorney's Office are available to speak to local students. Throughout the year we visit local classrooms and teach kids about what our office does and how the law works in Florida. We also invite local college students to volunteer at one of our offices throughout Southwest Florida. We have many volunteers who get to work closely with our prosecutors and get a real life education about the criminal justice system. If you would like to learn more about our programs, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Cruz at ncruz@sao.cjis20.org or call her at 533-1000.



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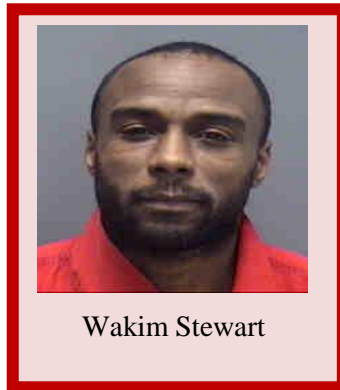


Multiple Cases

Wakim Stewart pled to various charges in Lee County and was sentenced to 48 months in prison. The charges were Grand Theft of a Firearm, Carrying a Concealed Firearm and Resisting or Obstructing an Officer without Violence.

He was also given a \$250 fine in each case, has to pay court costs in each case, and cost of prosecution in each case. He also had to pay \$643 in restitution to the victim.

Assistant State Attorney Marilla Pauly handled the case. The defendant, now a convicted felon, has other active cases in Collier County that are awaiting trial.



Wakim Stewart

Dollar Store Crime

Ashley Exceus was found guilty of Petit Theft – Second Offense after stealing items from a Fort Myers dollar store. She stuffed items in her purse to conceal them. At the time of this crime, she was on probation for a prior theft case.

Exceus was sentenced to 65 days in jail, court costs, and cost of prosecution. Assistant State Attorneys Martin Holland and Amy D’Alessandro handled the case.

Hendry Drug Case

James Stephens was found guilty of Sale or Delivery of Cocaine Within 1,000 ft. of a Park. The case involved the purchase of crack cocaine from the defendant by a detective with the Hendry County Sheriff’s Office working undercover.

Assistant State Attorneys Justin Chapman and Will Dorman handled the case.



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GUILTY VERDICTS

- ASAs Marie Doerr and Tyler Lovejoy: Second Degree Murder, Grand Theft, Burglary of a Dwelling
- ASA James Stewart: Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting an Officer with Violence
- ASAs Kate Rumley and Mara Marzano: Shooting into an Occupied Dwelling
- ASAs Andrew Woodliff and Garrick Soja: DUI
- ASAs Jennifer Toussaint and Sara Miller: Domestic Violence Battery
- ASAs Natalie Ramunni and Bianca Bentley: Providing False Information Concerning the Commission of a Crime
- ASA James Stewart: Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting an Officer with Violence
- ASA Cameron Siggs: Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 ft. of a House of Worship, Possession of Cocaine
- ASAs Scott Patterson and Martin Stark: Possession of a Firearm/Ammunition by a Convicted Felon
- ASAs Garrick Soja and Caitlin Sorenson: Battery
- ASA Tom Gorman: Aggravated Assault with a Firearm (actual possession), Resisting an Officer without Violence
- ASA Ian MacLaren: Driving with No Valid Driver's License, Possession of Cocaine
- ASA Alyssa Wolf: Trespass
- ASAs Melinda Alico and Caitlyn Sorenson: DV Battery
- ASA Rosemary Harlem-Wood: Domestic Violence Assault and Battery
- ASAs Jennifer Toussaint and Leanna Seidlich: DUI



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APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

In recognition of service to the people of Southwest Florida, and dedication to their jobs with the State Attorney's Office, a heartfelt thank you goes to the following people on their April employment anniversary dates:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Michelle Benetatos '85 | Barbara Panhuisse '03 | Caitlin Sorenson '12 |
| Diane Gamble '88 | Melissa Furst '04 | |
| Donna White '89 | Summer Bunnens '06 | |
| Marjorie McNear '94 | Cathy Lester '06 | |
| Cynthia Carter '96 | Bobbie Albritton '07 | |
| Sandra O'Key '96 | Catrina Bachmann '07 | |
| Brenda Wade '96 | Gwen Holcomb '10 | |
| Andreas Gardiner '01 | Tiffany Perreault '10 | |
| Robert Mobley III '02 | Noelle Cella '11 | |
| Charles Battaglia '03 | Molly Tandy '11 | |
| Nancy Gonzalez '03 | Alyssa Wolf '11 | |
| Suzanne McManaman '03 | Sabrina Fernandez '12 | |

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

A woman's love of AC/DC and choice to ignore the law, got her arrested 4 times in 26 hours. The New Hampshire resident kept blasting her tunes from her home. Neighbors called police due to the noise. Their first visit to her home got her a warning. The second visit ended in an arrest for ignoring the warning. She got out of jail and went home, blasting the music again. So police came back and arrested her again. A little later in the day she threatened her nephew with a frying pan, and got arrested again. When she went in front of the judge to face her charges, he recommended she get a set of headphones.

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A 57-year-old Key West man really want a cold beer. Instead of going to the store, he broke into the Key West airport and stole a 6-pack from the terminal bar. He was spotted by airport security walking through the empty terminal. It turns out he stole a soda first and drank it before grabbing the beer. He is charged with burglary and theft. His stay at the jail in the Keys no doubt did not quench his thirst.

