



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



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Gonzalez Sentenced

Luis Gonzalez was sentenced to the maximum of 60 years in prison for the murder of Lee County resident Tia Poklemba in 2008. Tia was run over by Gonzalez and left to die in the middle of a street in a residential neighborhood.

After the crime, Gonzalez went to McDonald's to pick-up food for his then pregnant girlfriend. Gonzalez fled to Mexico after the crime and was extradited to face charges in Lee County. In order for him to be extradited, the State Attorney's office could not seek the death penalty.

After serving his sentence, Gonzalez will likely be deported as his papers originally allowing him to live in the United States are now expired, plus he is now a convicted felon.

Assistant State Attorney Dan Feinberg of our Homicide Unit and Susan Fundermark handled the case. We want to thank them for the tremendous effort they put into this case to reach a resolution and help bring closure to Tia's family.



Luis Gonzalez

Guilty as Charged

Melissa Webb was found guilty as charged of Second Degree Murder with a Firearm for killing her boyfriend in August of 2011. Webb's boyfriend, Brian Sorendino, was found a month later wrapped in a sleeping bag dumped near the Lee/Charlotte line. Deputies found blood spatter and other evidence inside the couple's home in Fort Myers, which led detectives to Webb.

Webb's trial lasted two-days. After about an hour and a half of deliberation, the jury reached their verdict. Webb faces a maximum of life in prison when she is sentenced. Sentencing is scheduled for December 16th.

Assistant State Attorney Andreas Gardiner from our Homicide Unit and Stephanie Russell handled the case.



Melissa Webb



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Mohawks for Charity

Two of the prosecutors in our Homicide Unit helped collect hundreds of dollars in donations to help feed needy families at Thanksgiving, and they lost a little hair doing it!

Assistant State Attorneys Bob Lee and Dan Feinberg got mohawks in return for the money donated. Thanks to their efforts, along with others in the community, enough money was raised to feed 400 families in Southwest Florida! We want to thank them both for their generous support of those in need with the Mohawks for Meals program.



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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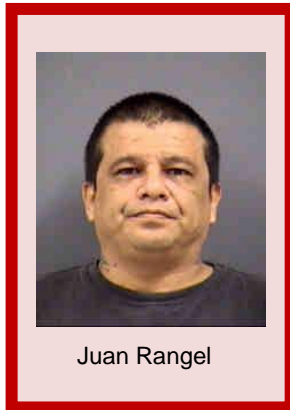
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Kitten Killer Sentenced

Juan Rangel was sentenced to 60 days in jail followed by 3 years of probation for throwing a kitten out of a car, killing it. A second kitten was thrown out of the car but survived after being rescued by someone who witnessed the crime.

As a now convicted felon, he also had to give a DNA sample to be on record with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Assistant State Attorney Cameron Siggs handled the case.



Juan Rangel

Prosecutor Recognized

We want to congratulate ASA Brian Mortenson who was recently named the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Prosecutor of the Year. The FWC's Division of Law Enforcement praised Brian for his hands-on approach to his cases.

Brian was also lauded for conducting training on evidence collection, interviews and report writing to helping officer improve their education and enforcement efforts.

We here at the State Attorney's Office are extremely proud of Brian and his hard work and dedication to the job.

Holiday Closings

The State Attorney's Office will be closed December 24th and 25th for the Christmas Holiday. Please have a safe and happy holiday season.





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GUILTY VERDICTS

ASA's Andreas Gardiner and Stephanie Russell: Second Degree Murder with a Firearm

ASA's Devin George and Stephanie Russell: Lewd of Lascivious Molestation – 5 counts, Lewd or Lascivious Battery

ASA Mitchell Cooper: Possession Oversized/Undersized Fish

ASA's Heather Searcy and Erin Hughes: DUI, DUI Accompanied by a Minor

ASA Scott Patterson: Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Tampering with Physical Evidence

ASA Lanna Belohlavek: Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon – Actual Possession

ASA's R. Ian MacLaren III and Leena Marcos: Possession of Heroin with Intent to Sell or Distribute

ASA's Michael Brown and John Dommerich: Sexual Battery on a Person 12-18 in Familial or Custodial Authority, Lewd Molestation

ASA's Maria DeMoya and Maria Berrette: DUI (Accompanied by a Minor), Expired Driver's License

ASA's Steven Maresca and Mara Marzano: Child Abuse

ASA Mitchell Cooper: First Degree Petit Theft

ASA's Mitchell Cooper and Andrew Woodliff: DUI, Resisting an Officer Without Violence

ASA's Agnieszka Osowicka and Heather Searcy: DUI 1st Offense

ASA's Michael Colombo and Jennifer Forsythe: DUI 3rd Outside of 10 Years

ASA's Michael Colombo and Erin Hughes: DUI 2nd Within 5 Years

ASA Michael Colombo: Violation/Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence

ASA's Caitlin Sorenson and Jillian Kuykendall: Battery (Domestic Violence)

ASA's Tracy Detzel and Scott Patterson: Shooting into a Dwelling – 2 counts, Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer with a Firearm – Possession and Discharge of Weapon, Resisting with Violence– Possession and Discharge of Weapon, Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer

ASA's Cassie Quaglia and Josh Fredrickson: DUI



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DECEMBER 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 December employment anniversary dates:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Stacey Carlton '95 | Robert Jaffarian '09 |
| Nancy Cruz '95 | Amanda Zych '09 |
| Martin Bowman '97 | Brenda Evensen '10 |
| Francine Donnorummo '98 | Rebecca Jones '10 |
| Barbara Rogers '03 | Jennifer Mohart '10 |
| Chelsie Jones '05 | Kelsey Chaney '11 |
| Courtney Berke '06 | Jennifer Forsythe '11 |
| Lisa Nodarse '06 | Janet Lee '11 |
| Amanda Brown '07 | Sonia Gomez-Rodriguez '11 |
| Jill Cabai '07 | Robert Conkin, Jr. '12 |
| Jennifer LaDelfa '08 | Michelle Mathis '12 |
| Stephen Iorio '09 | |

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

Two 7-foot tall cows are for sale on Craig's List... it sounds like the start of a joke but it is actually a dumb criminal story. The cows were costumes stolen from two Chik-Fil-A restaurants in California. The thief put them for sale online for \$300 each. A police office had been scanning the internet to see if they would turn up and answered the ad. He met the cow culprit and cuffed him. The stolen cow costumes, worth \$3,000 each, are now back where they belong... advertising chicken.

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A burglar who had been on the run for 7 years was finally caught after his photo appeared in a newspaper for a "Win a Wedding" contest. The 36-year-old didn't think before he entered the contest with his fiancé.