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Scott Purk Sentenced to Life in Prison for Wife's Murder

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, November 24, 2015) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Todd McKenney sentenced Scott Purk, 53, to Life in Prison with parole eligibility after 18 years, for the 1985 murder of his pregnant wife Margaret.

On November 18, 2015, jurors found Purk guilty of the following charges:

- Murder - a special felony
- Tampering With Evidence – a felony of the third degree

Judge McKenney also sentenced Purk to three years in prison for tampering with evidence in the case. Both the life sentence and the three year sentence are both to be served consecutively and will begin after Purk's current prison term is complete. Purk is currently serving a 28-year prison sentence after pleading guilty in 2012 to attempted aggravated murder, arson and other charges. His release date on that case is scheduled for August of 2039. Under this new sentence, Purk would not be eligible for a parole hearing until 2057. Purk could not be charged with the death of his unborn child since that was not a crime in 1985.

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“Justice has no time limit. For 30 years, Scott Purk lived his life claiming his pregnant wife committed suicide. Margaret Purk’s family can now rest easy knowing Scott Purk will pay for killing her,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “I would like to thank Stow Police Officer Ken Mifflin for his dedication and devotion to holding Margaret’s killer accountable. Officer Mifflin’s work allowed justice to prevail for Margaret and her unborn son.”

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