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Jeffrey Conrad Sentenced to Life In Prison Without Parole

Convicted of Murdering Cuyahoga Falls Woman and Assaulting Jail Inmate

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, January 18, 2017) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Paul Gallagher sentenced Jeffrey Conrad, 46, of 13th Street in Toledo, to Life in Prison Without Parole for the murder of Amanda Russell, plus an additional three years, to be served consecutively, for violating a protection order. Judge Gallagher also sentenced Conrad to an additional eight years in prison, also to be served consecutively to the life sentence, for a separate assault on a Summit County jail inmate.

“This has been a long, difficult fight for justice for Amanda’s family and Dennis McClelland. We are pleased to know Jeffrey Conrad will spend the rest of his life behind bars,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “His actions have left a lasting impact on Amanda’s family and our hope is that today’s sentence brings them some closure.”

On October 26, 2015, a Summit County jury found Conrad guilty of the following charges:

- Aggravated Murder – a special felony
- Two counts of Murder – both special felonies
- Felonious Assault – a felony of the second degree
- Violating a Protection Order – a felony of the third degree
- Domestic Violence – a felony of the fourth degree

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On August 28, 2014, Conrad stabbed 40-year-old Amanda Russell over 50 times. Russell was found in the backyard of her Cuyahoga Falls home by her teenaged daughter. Conrad led Cleveland MetroParks Rangers on a wild chase which ended in Lake Erie, where he was eventually captured after dropping the murder weapon in the water.

On December 16, 2016, a Summit County jury found Conrad guilty of the following charge:

- Felonious Assault – a felony of the 2nd degree

In November of 2014, Conrad was an inmate at the Summit County Jail charged with Russell's murder and was placed in housing unit with about 25 other inmates. Dennis McClelland was also an inmate in the same housing unit. On the morning of November 11, 2014, Conrad entered McClelland's cell and attacked him with a wooden plunger handle Conrad had broken off and hid. McClelland suffered several gashes to his head and neck and was hospitalized for a brief period of time.