



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



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Double Trial

A double trial in Lee County led to two guilty verdicts. Tyrone Carter was found guilty of Second Degree Murder and sentenced to life in prison. Eugene Henry was found guilty of Manslaughter with a Firearm. His sentencing is set for June 17th.

This was a second trial for both men. They were both convicted in 2008 for this crime involving using AK-47 assault rifles to shoot a local man dead. The sentence was overturned on appeal.

Assistant State Attorneys Hamid Hunter and Devin George handled the cases.

Baby Murder Case

Steve Cantrell, 21, was sentenced to 34 years in prison for Second Degree Murder for killing his 7-week-old daughter. He could have faced as little as 21 years in prison. Assistant State Attorney Francine Donnorumbo of our Special Victims Unit handled the case.



Steve Cantrell

Convenience Store Robbery

Dante Howard was found guilty as charged for Robbery with a Firearm- Discharge and Aggravated Assault with a Firearm following a two day trial in Naples. The defendant robbed a convenience store in Immokalee. He came in wearing a mask, demanded money, and fired a shot while in the store. As he ran out, he also threatened a man outside of the store with a gun. Howard was caught later in Lehigh Acres.

With this guilty verdict, he qualifies as a Prison Releasee Reoffender and faces up to life in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for July 12th.

Assistant State Attorneys Mara Marzano and Rich Montecalvo handled the case. A special thank you to Assistant State Attorney Hamid Hunter who also assisted with the case.



Dante Howard

Accidental Shooting

24-year-old Christopher Davis of Charlotte County was sentenced to two years of probation due to his 2-year-old son accidentally shooting himself. He must also do 50 hours of community service in regards to gun safety This will include making a video that can be used to impress upon parents the dangers of improper firearm storage. He must also forfeit all of his guns and undergo a psychological evaluation and follow up treatment. Assistant State Attorney Jennifer Garczewski handled the case.



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Hero Rescue

This month's Good Neighbor award goes to **Cape Coral Police Officer Stephen Burkhart**. He recently came to the rescue of a man who drove his vehicle into a canal in north Cape Coral. Burkhart jumped into the water and was able to pull the driver, who was in a state of shock, out of his car. We want to thank him for his heroism.

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.

The State Attorney's Office will be closed Thursday, July 4th for the Independence Day holiday.



**Cape Coral
Police Officer
Stephen Burkhart**



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Domestic Violence Case

Marcus Turrone Chandler was found guilty of Domestic Violence Battery for throwing hot coffee on his girlfriend and will spend the next 9 months in the Collier County jail. This will be followed by 3 months of probation.

The crime happened when Chandler went to McDonald's to get breakfast and coffee. When he walked back outside where the victim was, they got into an argument. He said to the victim "don't make me throw this coffee on you" and the victim said "I wish you would," so he did.

She suffered second degree burns and has permanent scarring. After getting out of jail, Chandler will have to complete an anger management course, be on probation for 3 months and can not have any contact with the victim. Assistant State Attorneys Jennifer Toussaint and Cassie Quaglia handled the case.



Marcus Chandler

DUI Case

Lucas Koster was found guilty of DUI 4th or More following a two day trial in Charlotte County. The defendant's truck was found parked in the middle of a road outside of a bar. When a deputy approached, the truck sped off. The defendant rolled through a stop sign, drove onto the grass and into oncoming traffic.

At trial the defendant testified that he could not have been drinking as he had been at work all day. Our prosecutors determined he was not at work that day. Assistant State Attorneys Andrew Woodliff and Jennifer Garczewski handled the case.

Phone Theft

Christina Rodriguez was found guilty of First Degree Petit Theft for an unusual incident in Naples. She was an employee at a local clothing store and stole the iphone of a customer. The theft was witnessed by the victim's friend.

An iphone tracking device was initiated and the phone was found in her locker after she denied taking it. Assistant State Attorneys Cassandra Quaglia and Sara Miller handled the case.



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GUILTY VERDICTS

ASAs Andrew Woodliff and Jennifer Garczewski: DUI 4th or More

ASAs Caitlin Sorenson and Melinda Alico: DUI

ASAs Jennifer Toussaint and Cassie Quaglia: Domestic Violence Battery

ASA Deborah Cunningham: Aggravated Manslaughter of a Child, Child Neglect, Child Abuse

ASA Mara Marzano: Robbery with a Firearm – Discharge, Aggravated Assault with a Firearm

ASA Will Grauel: Open Container

ASAs Kyle Stublen and Stephanie Powers: Burglary of an Occupied Dwelling

ASAs Hamid Hunter and Devin George: Second Degree Murder

ASA Hamid Hunter and Devin George: Manslaughter with a Firearm

ASA Orion Wright: Robbery- Discharging a Firearm, Eluding a Law Enforcement Officer with Lights and Sirens

ASAs Scott Patterson and Jennifer Garczewski: Burglary, Battery, False Imprisonment, Impersonating an Officer

ASA Christina Berkowicz: Carrying a Concealed Weapon

ASA Robert Siddall: Battery

ASAs Jennifer Forsythe and Matthew Roepstorff: DUI- 1st Offense

ASA Martin Holland: DUI, DUI with Damage to Property

ASAs Stephanie Bendeck and Amanda Brown: Aggravated Battery – Possession, Criminal Mischief

ASAs Steve Maresca and Deb Cunningham: Possession of Child Pornography

ASA Abe Thornburg: Criminal Mischief, Resisting and Obstructing an Officer without Violence, Burglary of a Structure

ASA Tom Gorman III: DUI 3rd within 10

ASAs Cassie Quaglia and Nabeel Basit: DUI

ASAs Scott Patterson and Jillian Kuykendall: Burglary While Armed, Grand Theft of a Firearm, Grand Theft

ASA Robert Siddall: Throwing a Deadly Missile



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JULY 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 July employment anniversary dates:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Greene, Dawn '89 | George, Devin '06 | Ouimet, Linda '12 |
| Psaros, Elaine '89 | Hicks, Shaina '06 | |
| Johnson, Eugenie '96 | McCarley, Robin '06 | |
| Beck, Lois '00 | Navarro, Leandro '06 | |
| Besece, Amber '01 | Rosen, Bret '06 | |
| Green, Sharon '04 | Cefole, BettyAnn '07 | |
| Lawson, Charles '04 | Edwards, Miranda '07 | |
| Sarkis, Betty '04 | Mead, Lisa '07 | |
| Taylor, Suzan '04 | Unutmaz, Jale '07 | |
| Whalen, Wynn '04 | Rohrbach, James '10 | |
| Hazelcorn, Heidi '05 | Fox, Amira '12 | |
| Rhodes, Raymond '05 | Graham, Audri '12 | |

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

An Oregon teenager's FaceBook posting landed him behind bars. He wrote "Drivin drunk...classic ;) but to whoever's vehicle I hit I am sorry." Police said the online confession was not enough evidence to support a drunk driving charge but he was charged with two counts of failing to perform the duties of a driver. Not surprisingly, he didn't post an update on FaceBook after getting hit with those charges.

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A man in Ohio got arrested after reporting a theft. He told a police officer someone stole his marijuana. He claimed he had a baggy of pot stuffed into his sweatpants and it fell out. He was sure someone in his home picked it up and stashed it. Police arrested the man for marijuana possession and possession of drug paraphernalia after the man invited the officers in to help him find his pot.

