




Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report



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Guilty of Murder

Antawone James was found guilty of Second Degree Murder with a Firearm following a 2 day trial. This is for the 2012 murder of 20-year-old Armando Pagan in Fort Myers. Pagan was killed in the doorway of his apartment that he shared with his pregnant wife.

During the trial the State called 12 witnesses and the defense called none. The case was handled by Assistant State Attorney Andreas Gardiner of our Homicide Unit and Assistant State Attorney Jennifer Royal.

Sentencing for 20-year-old James is scheduled for September 15th.



Antawone James

Sexual Battery Case

Robitail Duc Jean was found guilty of Sexual Battery and Battery following a 2 day trial in Fort Myers. The 24-year-old was arrested after attacking and having sex with a younger female relative at a home in Lehigh Acres.

The girl tried to get away from him but he used a knife and a broomstick against her. Assistant State Attorney John Dommerich Jr. handled the case. Sentencing is scheduled for October 27th at 1:30 p.m.



Robitail Duc Jean



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Holiday Closure

The State Attorney’s Office will be closed on Thursday, September 25th for Rosh Hashanah.



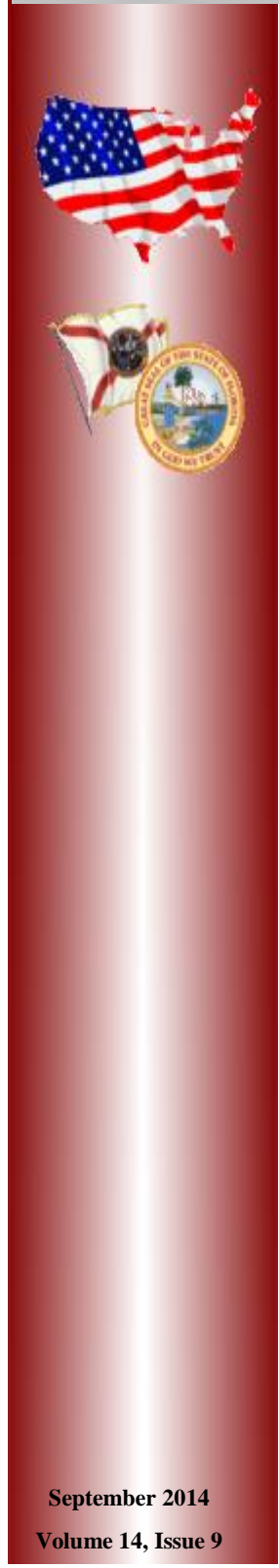
Learning About the State Attorney’s Office

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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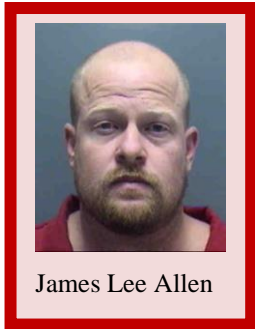
Drug Case

Two cases have come to a close in the synthetic marijuana distribution operation bust that happened on New Year's Eve in Lee County.

Benjamin Smith was sentenced to 18 months probation for Conspiracy to Commit Sale of a Controlled Substance which is a 3rd degree felony.

James Lee Allen was sentenced to 36 months probation for Sale of a Controlled Substance, a 2nd degree felony.

Allen and Smith were employees of their co-defendant, Ryan Carroll. His case is still pending trial. Carroll faces up to 55 years in prison if found guilty of his current charges.



James Lee Allen



Benjamin Smith

Child Abuse Case

Victoria Page-Martin was found guilty of Aggravated Child Abuse and Child Neglect Causing Great Bodily Harm, Permanent Disfigurement or Permanent Injury following a trial in Hendry County. Assistant State Attorneys Jill Cabai and Amanda Brown handled the case.

Page-Martin injured her 25 day old son and waited hours to take him to the hospital. He had internal injuries from leg fractures to brain injuries. The child survived but will need medical care for the rest of his life.

Page-Martin is scheduled to be sentenced on September 26th at 1 p.m. She faces up to 45 years in prison.



Victoria Page-Martin



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GUILTY VERDICTS

ASA's Andreas Gardiner and Jennifer Royal: 2nd Degree Murder with a Firearm

ASA Brad Willard: DUI

ASA Christina Berkowicz: Petit Theft

ASA Scott Patterson: Sale and Delivery of Cocaine, Possession of Cocaine with Intent

ASA J. Xavier Orochena: DUI 1st Offense

ASA's Jennifer Forsythe and Orion Wright: Burglary of a Conveyance – 2 counts, Theft – 2 counts, Battery

ASA Mitchell Cooper: Refusal to Test

ASA Martin Holland: Resisting without Violence

ASA's Jennifer Forsythe and Orion Wright: Sale of Cocaine within 1,000 ft. of a Place of Worship, Possession of Cocaine

ASA John Dommerich, Jr.: Sexual Battery, Battery

ASA Bianca Bentley: Sale or Delivery of Cocaine, Possession of Cocaine

ASA Xavier Orochena: Resisting without Violence





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Twentieth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida

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SEPTEMBER 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 September employment anniversary dates:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Barbara Hardgrove '85 | Kathryn Horst '10 | Linda Tonks '13 |
| Robert Lee '88 | Stephanie Powers '10 | |
| Debbie Stanbro '91 | Bianca Bentley '11 | |
| Dana Schwarz '94 | Christina Berkowicz '11 | |
| Paul Poland '96 | Amy D'Alessandro '11 | |
| Sally Murphy '97 | Sara Hall '11 | |
| Julia Howard '98 | Leena Marcos '11 | |
| Heather Kobilus '04 | Heather Boltz '12 | |
| Mary Horvath '05 | Elizabeth Loftus '12 | |
| Nicole Mirra '06 | Johnnie Reid '12 | |
| John Dommerich, Jr. '10 | Mitchell Cooper '13 | |
| Andrew Woodliff '11 | Lindsay Gaide '13 | |

SOMETIMES THEY MAKE IT EASY

It sounds like the start of a joke, "So this penguin walks into a convenience store..." but it actually happened. A man dressed as a penguin walked into a store in the U.K. and stole 10 cans of beer. Witnesses on the scene said the man was "quite conspicuous." He quietly walked out with his giant penguin onesie on and his beak up. He has flown the coop and has yet to be caged.

