



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report




In This Edition:

Page 1,2,3

- Cases

Page 4

- Guilty Verdicts

Page 5

Anniversaries

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Sexual Battery: Life in Prison

Shane O’Neal Puryear, 49, of Lehigh Acres, was sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty as charged with Sexual Battery on a Child Less Than 12 Years of Age. The victim was 6 years old.

The child was assaulted in November 2014 while the defendant was assisting the family in preparing for a Thanksgiving celebration.

Assistant State Attorney and Special Victim’s Unit Chief Francine Donnorummo and Assistant State Attorney Agnieszka Osowicka of the Special Victim’s Unit prosecuted the case during the 4 day trial in Lee County.



Shane O’Neal Puryear

Sexual Battery by Multiple Perpetrators

Timothy Alexander, 35, was sentenced to 30 years in prison for his involvement in a rape on a party bus. He was also designated a Sexual Predator as a result of his convictions.

In May, Alexander was convicted by a jury in Hendry County of two counts of Sexual Battery by Multiple Perpetrators. The crime happened in 2013. The victim, who was 16 at the time of the battery, took the stand during the trial and testified against the defendant.

There is a co-defendant in the case and his case is still pending. Assistant State Attorneys John Dommerich Jr. and Abe Thornburg prosecuted the case.

DUI Manslaughter

Golden Gate Estates resident Rene Miles, 42, was been found guilty by a Collier County jury for a crash that killed a local father of four. Miles was found guilty of DUI Manslaughter, DUI Serious Bodily Injury, and two counts of DUI with Injury to Person. He faces up to 22 years of incarceration when he is sentenced on August 14th.

Assistant State Attorney Mara Marzano of our Homicide Unit and Assistant State Attorney Nicole Mirra prosecuted the case.



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

The Russell Report

Page 2

Guilty of Murder

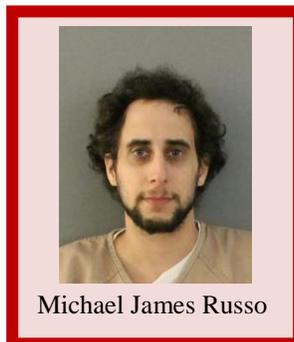
Michael James Russo, 29, was found guilty of Second Degree Murder and First Degree Arson for the 2015 killing of Kyle Farishian following a trial in Punta Gorda.

In the early morning hours of November 1st, Russo entered the 7-Eleven convenience store at Bal Harbor Boulevard and Aqwi Esta Drive. He had gloves on and his head covered so he could not be immediately identified. He was carrying a gasoline can in one hand and a firearm in the other. When the 18-year-old store clerk came in contact with him, Russo shot him. After he fell to the ground, Russo shot him again.

Russo then poured gasoline from the can he was carrying over the victim and the counter. He tried unsuccessfully two times to set it ablaze and the third time he did. Russo had prior incidents at this convenience store, ultimately resulting in a trespass warning being issued against him. On two prior occasions, Russo had become belligerent with a particular store clerk, not the victim. Russo continued to harass employees including calling the manager on her personal cell phone and filing online complaints.

The morning that Russo murdered Farishian he did not steal anything, other than the three lighters he used to start the fire. The entire crime was captured on the store's surveillance video which helped lead to identifying the defendant. The video showed his physical characteristics, mannerisms, and distinct walking gait. He also had removed a glove during the time he was trying to start the fire which assisted in identifying him. A gasoline can recovered from Russo's garage was also later determined to be the same as the gasoline can used in the crime.

Russo faces up to life in prison when he is sentenced on July 17th. Assistant State Attorneys Shannon Doolity, Dan Feinberg of our Homicide Unit, and Kyle Stublen handled the case.

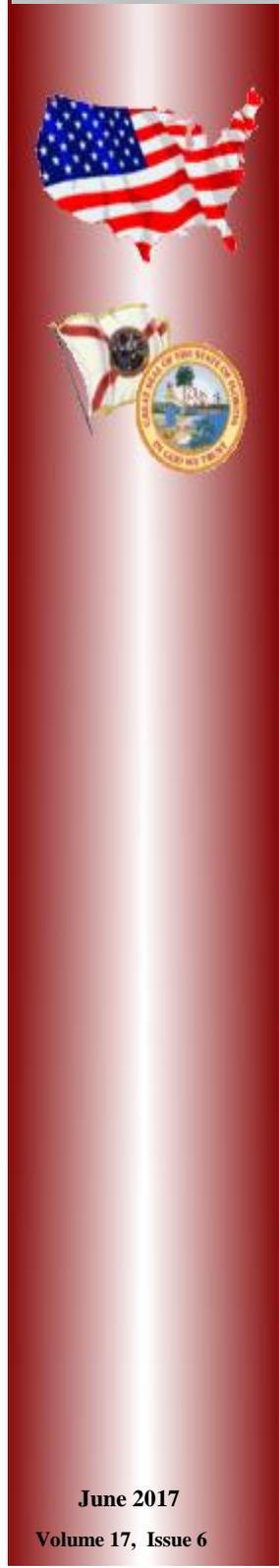


Michael James Russo



Stephen B. Russell, State Attorney

THE RUSSELL REPORT



Murder and Robbery Cases

A father and son were sentenced to life in prison and 75 years in prison respectively, for their involvement in a 2015 robbery and murder in Fort Myers.

Kevin Parker Sr. was sentenced to life in prison following his conviction in May for Second Degree Murder and Robbery with a Firearm. His conviction stems from the death of Henry Jenkins who was shot and killed in his own apartment in April 2015. He was also robbed and some of his stolen jewelry was found at the motel where the defendants lived.

Kevin Parker Sr. was seen on surveillance video from a local convenience store wearing distinctive boots and bloody impressions from the unique boots were discovered at the crime scene.

His son, Kevin Parker Jr. was sentenced to 75 years in prison. He was also seen in the surveillance video as the driver of the car used in the crime. He was found guilty as charged for Robbery While Possessing a Firearm following a trial in May.

Assistant State Attorney Andreas Gardiner of our Homicide Unit and Assistant State Attorney John Dommerich, Jr. handled the cases.

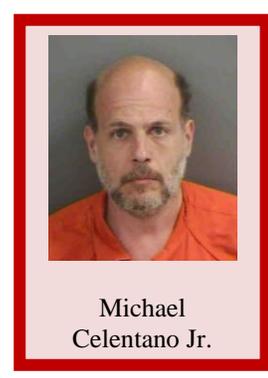
Child Pornography Case

Michael Celentano, Jr., 48, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his involvement in child pornography. The Naples resident had still images and videos of child pornography on two computer hard drives. He also had DVDs containing child pornography in his home and was downloading child pornography from the internet.

Celentano Jr. pled straight to the court. A week before trial was scheduled to start in February, he chose to not have a jury trial and just have the judge sentence him after pleading no contest.

A sentencing hearing was held for one count of Transmission of Child Pornography, one count of Possession of Child Pornography with Intent to Promote, and 10 counts of Possession of Child Pornography.

Assistant State Attorney Deborah Cunningham prosecuted the case.



Michael
Celentano Jr.



THE RUSSELL REPORT

GUILTY VERDICTS

ASA's Mara Marzano and Nicole Mirra: DUI Manslaughter, DUI-Serious Bodily Injury, DUI with Injury – 2 counts

ASA Hanna Renna: Attempted Second Degree Murder Discharging a Firearm, Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

ASA's Ashley Adams and Leena Marcos: Possession of Heroin, Sale of a Controlled Substance within 1,000 ft. of a Public Park

ASA Jennifer Royal: Scheme to Defraud

ASA's Martin Stark and Garrick Soja: BUI

ASA's Natalie Savino and Alyssa Wolf: Aggravated Battery with a Firearm, Improper Exhibition of a Firearm

ASA Laura Johnson: Driving While License Suspended (Habitual Revocation)

ASA Martin Holland: Insurance Fraud

ASA Erin Hughes: Battery

ASA J.D. Miller: Second Degree Grand Theft

ASA Brad Willard: Traveling to Meet a Minor





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THE RUSSELL REPORT

Page 5



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

In recognition of service to the citizens 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 June employment anniversary dates:

Andrea Canizares '03	Yolanda Mendez '14
Skye Castillo '15	Scott Miller '13
Pamela Fitzwater '11	Lourdes Muina '05
Jennifer Garzewski '05	Stanley Ragin '15
Patricia Hartman '03	Steven Scalici '15
Ashley Hubble '16	Katherine Snyder '16
Amy Kosinski '02	Kyle Stublen '11
Michael McNeese '13	Jennifer Toussaint '10

Learning About the State Attorney's Office

Staff members of the State Attorney's Office are available to speak to local students or groups. Throughout the year we visit classrooms and organizations to teach people 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 an 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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