



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Found Guilty of 2019 Murder of Mackenna Milhon

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Lonnie Leroy Williams, 33, of Springfield, was convicted today by a Greene County Jury of the 2019 murder of Mackenna Milhon. The defendant was found guilty of murder in the first degree punishable by life in prison without the possibility of parole and armed criminal action which carries a minimum sentence of three years and no maximum term of years. The jury of eleven women and one man deliberated for approximately three and one half hours before returning its verdict.

The verdict today was made possible, in part, by outstanding interagency cooperation between the Springfield Police Department and the Greene County Sheriff's Office. Mackenna was reported missing after last being seen on December 20, 2019 in the company of the defendant. Her body was discovered ten days later on December 30, 2019, just north of Springfield. The Springfield Police Department investigated the missing persons report and used a combination of cell phone technology, field interviews, and a Crime Stoppers report to locate Mackenna. The Greene County Sheriff's Office investigated the homicide as Mackenna's murder was committed outside of the city limits.

Prosecutor Patterson thanks the members of the jury for their service and appreciates their thoughtful consideration of evidence that no one should have to hear or see. He also expressed his thanks to Detective Cody Williams and the Springfield Police Department and Detective Jennifer Flood and the Greene County Sheriff's Office for their tireless work on this case both to find Mackenna and to bring the defendant to justice. Patterson further stated that he knows that the jury's verdict cannot bring closure for the family or fill the gap caused by Mackenna's absence but hopes that the

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State v. Lonnie Williams, 2031-CR00008-01

verdict brings the family some measure of comfort knowing the defendant has been held accountable for their loss.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable Becky Borthwick. Judge Borthwick set a sentencing hearing for July 15 2021 at 1:30 pm following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson and First Assistant Phillip Fuhrman. It was investigated by Detective Cody Williams of the Springfield Police Department and Detective Jennifer Flood of the Greene County Sheriff's Office.

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