



**Twelfth Judicial District
State of New Mexico
OTERO, LINCOLN COUNTIES**

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2023

TRAVIS NOLAN FOUND GUILTY OF 1ST DEGREE MURDER. ARMED ROBBERY AND TAMPERING WITH EVIDENCE.

The Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's Office announces on March 10, 2023, that a Lincoln County Jury has found Travis Nolan, age 21, guilty of First Degree Murder (Willful and Deliberate), Armed Robbery (2nd Degree Felony) and Tampering with Evidence (3rd Degree Felony) after a five day jury trial before the Honorable Daniel Bryant. The jury deliberated for approximately two hours before delivering their guilty verdicts.

On May 25, 2019, the Ruidoso Police Department received multiple 911 calls in reference to a subject who had been shot and was deceased in the 100 block of Glade Drive. Upon the arrival of Officers, they located Christopher Williams deceased with several gunshot wounds.

Through the investigation it was learned Mr. Williams left his mother and stepfather's residence in Ruidoso to take Travis Nolan to the gas station. Upon arriving in the 100 block of Glade Drive, Travis used a 12-gauge shotgun to shoot Mr. Williams three times in the cab of the truck, removed Mr. Williams from the truck and then fled the scene in Mr. Williams' truck to Arizona. Travis Nolan disposed of Mr. Williams truck while in Arizona prior to him returning back to the Ruidoso area.

On June 4, 2019, Travis Nolan was arrested in Ruidoso and charged with the murder of Christopher Williams.

In December 2022, the Ruidoso Police Department was notified Mr. Williams truck had been located. It was learned Mr. Williams truck had been burned in Tucson, Arizona on May 27, 2019, however due to the damage caused by the fire it was not able to be identified until December 2022.

The trial for Travis Nolan began in Carrizozo on March 6, 2023. During the week, prosecution called 28 different witnesses in this case. The trial concluded on March 10, 2023, after just two hours of jury deliberations, returning with a guilty verdict on all three counts.

Uniquely, during the trial, the defendant took the stand, admitted to killing Mr. Williams, told the jury they should convict him, admitted to burning Mr. Williams truck and disposing of the shotgun.

Nolan faces life imprisonment plus 30 years in prison at a sentencing hearing expected to occur later this year.

This case was prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney James Dickens and Senior Trial Attorney Thomas Erickson and was investigated by the 12th Judicial Major Crime Unit which consists of investigators with the Alamogordo Police Department, Ruidoso Police Department, Otero County Sheriff's Office, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the 12th Judicial District Attorney's Office.

