



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
Office of the District Attorney  
Twelfth Judicial District

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May 25, 2025

**LOUISIANA MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR MURDERING HIS  
WIFE AND BURYING HER IN THE DOG CANYON AREA OF OTERO COUNTY**

On May 23, 2025, an Otero County jury found Shaun Castain LeFleur, 57, of Louisiana, guilty of first degree murder and tampering with evidence for the murder of his wife Nancy LeFleur.

LeFleur and his wife, Nancy LeFleur, came to Otero County in late 2023. Shaun, a career criminal, was living on the run and forcing his wife to come along with him. After beating his wife in late 2023, LeFleur was convicted in the Otero County Magistrate Court of Battery Against a Household member. At the time of the conviction, LeFleur had already murdered his wife Nancy and buried her in a shallow grave in the desert just north of Oliver Lee State Park.

Two months after the murder of Nancy, a citizen came forward with information that LeFleur was believed to have murdered his wife and buried her in the desert. The New Mexico State Police were called in and led the investigation. Shortly after, Nancy's body was discovered buried in a shallow grave approximately 1 mile north of Oliver Lee State Park. The site of the burial was just mere feet from a spot where LeFleur had previously been seen camped at.

The ensuing investigation revealed that Shaun LeFleur and his wife Nancy had been camped near the dispersed camp area outside of the State Park south of Alamogordo. From there, Shaun moved his camp north into the desert area well away from others. Shaun began searching the internet for local places where he could purchase a gun and potential places in Mexico where he could flee to.

Then, late one night in February 2024, he forced his wife Nancy out of their tent and onto her knees. LeFleur then murdered Nancy in an execution style shooting. He wrapped her body in a tarp and buried her before fleeing to Texas. A month later, LeFleur returned to the scene of the murder and set up camp in an effort to discourage people from stumbling upon the body.

The investigation spanned multiple states and multiple search warrants were executed. In April of 2024, LeFleur was arrested by the New Mexico State Police while parked alongside the Sunspot highway just outside of Cloudcroft, NM.

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The Honorable John P. Sugg imposed sentencing just 30 minutes after the jury returned with the guilty verdict. Judge Sugg told LeFleur that he “showed no remorse for the murder of his wife” and not one person in that courtroom, including him, “believed his testimony” as he was clearly continuing to lie in an attempt to cover up his crime. Judge Sugg sentenced LeFleur to a mandatory life sentence to be served after serving the maximum sentence allowed under the law for burying the body of Nancy after her murder.

The case was investigated by the New Mexico State Police and prosecuted by District Attorney Ryan Suggs along with Chief Deputy District Attorney Michael Tighe and Assistant District Attorney Taylor Weary.

DA Suggs said after the trial, “this was an extremely tough case to piece together. I’m extremely proud of my team of prosecutors and staff who worked tirelessly alongside me for the duration of this case. I’m thankful that we were able to bring LeFleur to justice and give the family the closure that they deserved.”

LeFleur will be almost 90 years old before he is eligible for parole. Judge Sugg told LeFleur, “I don’t think you will live that long, you will die in the New Mexico Department of Corrections.”