



NEWS RELEASE

April 19, 2013
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Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Strangulation Death of Ex-Girlfriend

Christopher Mainock (DOB 11/11/88) was sentenced to life in prison without parole today for the murder of his former girlfriend in 2011. Adams County District Court Judge Jill-Ellyn Straus also found Mainock to be a sexually violent predator.

On March 21, 2011, 20-year-old Sarah Barroga-Hulett was abducted by Mainock, who used chloroform to subdue her and dragged her to her car where he sexually assaulted and strangled her to death.

Westminster police, responding to a call about a suspicious vehicle near his Westminster home, found Mainock in the vehicle with the victim partially undressed and unresponsive in the back seat. Mainock was not wearing any pants. Black trash bags were taped on the inside of the windows of the vehicle and a search revealed knives, a bottle of chloroform, twine, a full 6-gallon gas can and matches.

The case went to jury trial on January 22, 2013. The defense claimed Mainock suffers from mental illness and was insane at the time of the crime. A jury found he was sane and convicted him on February 1, 2013 on charges of first-degree felony murder, second-degree murder, kidnapping and sexual assault.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of Sarah Barroga-Hulett," said Assistant District Attorney Jess Redman. "Our hearts go out to her family and friends who demonstrated such strong support during the trial. We are very proud of our prosecution team and the men and women of the community who served on the jury and delivered justice to Sarah."

Please note that a February 1, 2012 news release after the trial erroneously stated that the victim was stabbed to death. She was not stabbed. She was strangled and the cause of death was asphyxiation.

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