



NEWS RELEASE

May 27, 2014
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Man Convicted of First-Degree Murder in Death of Two Teens He Buried in Sedgwick

William Dean Otto (DOB 12/18/69) was convicted of first-degree murder Tuesday in the death of two teenagers whose bodies were found buried in Sedgwick, Colorado last August.

Otto, of unincorporated Adams County, was convicted of two counts of first-degree murder (F1) in the deaths of Gustavo Espinosa-Gamboa, (DOB 11/08/96) and Jonathan Gonzalez (DOB 01/15/98) on August 9. Otto also was convicted of four counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, one count of tampering with evidence and one count of sexual exploitation of a child.

According to evidence presented during the trial, young people frequently went to Otto's house where he supplied them with marijuana and alcohol. On Aug. 9, Espinosa and Gonzalez went to Otto's home to confront him about a video in which Otto had propositioned one of them for sex. Otto told police they wanted money from him and Gonzalez had gotten a knife from his kitchen, prompting Otto to grab his gun and shoot each of them in the head.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Tim McCormack told the jury that this was an execution-style killing with both victims shot in the head at close range.

After the murders, Otto went to work and later bought supplies to clean his apartment, remove bloody carpeting and cover up his crime. He loaded the bodies into his truck and drove to Sedgwick near the Nebraska border where he buried them, burning evidence at his family's farm.

Otto called his employer and confessed. He turned himself in to officers on August 10.

The Adams County District Court jury heard closing arguments Friday afternoon and reached a verdict after several hours of deliberation Tuesday morning. Otto will be sentenced at 8:30 Friday in Division F of Adams County District Court.

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