



NEWS RELEASE

July 31, 2019
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Woman Sentenced in Vehicular Homicide of Two Colorado Educators

Cassandra Ann Ross (DOB 03/22/57) was sentenced Wednesday to 12 years' probation for vehicular homicide, barred from driving and ordered to perform community service to honor the two Colorado educators killed in the 2016 crash.

Daniel Rawley Maas, 47, and Loan Kieu Maas, 46, were killed when Ross ran a red light and broadsided their vehicle at 136th Avenue and Washington Street on August 26, 2016, while driving an estimated 85 miles per hour in a 55 mph speed zone.

Daniel Maas was chief operations officer for the Thompson School District in Loveland. Loan Maas, was an educator with Denver Public Schools who devoted her career to serving underprivileged and first-generation students.

Ross pleaded guilty to one count of vehicular homicide (F4) naming both victims.

Adams County District Judge Mark Warner ordered Ross not to drive and to perform 75 hours of community service working for a scholarship fund for underprivileged students that the family established to honor their memory.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Kristen Baker said the family preferred that Ross do something to benefit students and honor the work of the two educators rather than serve a prison sentence. Baker said that when she met with their son, Calvin Maas, "his concern was for all the students who will not have his mother and father in their lives. Daniel and Loan Maas raised him to be such a wonderful and remarkable young man who showed compassion to his parents' killer."

She said the stipulated probation and community service sentence was crafted so that Ross "could do something to help fill the hole that was left by the loss of these two young educators."

Judge Warner noted that vehicular homicide potentially carries a lengthy prison sentence and said he agreed to the probation sentence in large part due to the compassion of the Maas family. He urged the probation department to arrange that Ross serve her community service to benefit The Dan and Loan Maas Scholarship Fund for underprivileged students.