



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Sentenced to Life Plus 48 Years in Commerce City Double Homicide

Thomas Holleman was sentenced Wednesday to life in prison without parole plus 48 years in a double homicide in Commerce City last April.

Holleman pleaded guilty in March to first-degree murder after deliberation in the shooting death of Raphael Sassi, 42 and to second-degree murder in the shooting death of Mary Broad, 59.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Brian Mason said Holleman committed a “gruesome, selfish, outrageous, and, most of all, brutal double homicide. Thomas Holleman murdered Raphael Sassi and Mary Broad in cold blood –at a time when both had just achieved long-sought happiness in their own lives.”

Commerce City police responded to 10813 Belle Creek Boulevard on April 5, 2019, after Holleman called 911, telling officers that he had just killed his landlord and one of his roommates. Officers found Mary Broad and Raphael Sassi dead on the floor of the residence. Both were shot multiple times in the chest and head. Holleman told police he would be waiting for them on the front porch and was arrested.

Although the defense said Holleman pleaded guilty to spare the grieving families more pain, Mason said he saw it differently. “I believe Mr. Holleman knew how overwhelming the evidence in this gruesome case was – and he was ashamed to sit through a trial where his actions would be put on display to a jury of his peers. Because it would have revealed to them and the world what he had done and who he was,” Mason said. “And that he could not bear.”

Adams County District Judge Priscilla Loew sentenced Holleman to life in prison without parole plus 48 years. “There are no words to describe what you did,” she told Holleman. “This was an unprovoked, undeserved, unjustified cold killing of two people who did nothing to lose their lives.”

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