



OFFICE OF THE SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

MARK S. RUBIN COUNTY ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Mark Stodghill, County Attorney's Office
St. Louis County Courthouse
Duluth, MN 218-726-2323

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Holisky sentenced for murder of Lisa Isham

William James Holisky II was sentenced today to 30 years in prison after admitting that he killed Lisa Isham in her Duluth apartment last year, St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin said.

Holisky, 64, pleaded guilty on July 8 to second-degree murder in the stabbing death of Ms. Isham, whose body was found on May 30, 2015. The medical examiner determined that the victim had been dead for more than seven days prior to her discovery. DNA recovered from the murder weapon would exclude 99.98 percent of the population, but not Holisky.

Judge Mark Munger sentenced Holisky in State District Court. The judge told Holisky that it was the most brutal murder he had dealt with in his 18 years on the bench. He told the defendant that he had a "dark heart" and was not redeemable. "My hope is that you never leave the Commissioner of Corrections," Munger said before handing down the guideline sentence.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant St. Louis County Attorneys Jessica Fralich and Vicky Wanta.

"First and foremost, the St. Louis County Attorney's Office wishes to extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Lisa Isham," Fralich said. "Today's sentencing represents the final resolution of this tragedy in the criminal courts. It is our hope the sentencing will allow Lisa's loved ones some comfort in knowing the person responsible for this heinous offense, William James Holisky, has been brought to justice. The St. Louis County Attorney's office also commends the work of the Duluth Police Department in this case. Without their diligence, the resolution here would not have been possible."

