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NEWS RELEASE

May 7, 2015

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Iron Range man sentenced for murder

The Babbitt man who murdered his mother's boyfriend last year was sentenced Thursday to more than 27 years in prison, St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin said.

Shawn Russel Doherty, 26, pleaded guilty last month to intentional second-degree murder in the death of Paul Bulen, 55, of Mahtomedi, Minn., at the defendant's mother's Babbitt home on Jan. 13, 2014.

The cause of death was determined to be asphyxia due to manual strangulation.

Sixth Judicial District Judge Gary Pagliaccetti sentenced Doherty in St. Louis County District Court in Virginia to 325 months in prison with credit for the 480 days that Doherty has already spent in jail.

"There is no consequence for the defendant that can make up for the loss of Paul Bulen's life," said Assistant St. Louis County Attorney Michelle Anderson, who prosecuted the case. "The victims can't get back what was lost. I am deeply saddened for the suffering the defendant has caused Paul Bulen's friends and family and I expressed my support to them. I want to thank the cooperative work of the Babbitt Police Department, the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for the investigation that brought the defendant to the justice system."

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