



Riverside County District Attorney

# CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

PAUL E. ZELLERBACH  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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John Hall  
Senior Public Information Specialist  
Contact: 951.955.8662

## MAN WHO MURDERED WOMAN AND BROUGHT HER BODY TO LAKE ELSINORE SHERIFF'S STATION IS SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE

MURRIETA – A Good Hope man was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole today, June 29, 2011, for the October 2010 murder of a woman whose body he brought to authorities in the trunk of the victim's car.

Jason Richard Budrow, DOB: 3-23-80, entered a guilty plea and admitted all special allegations before Judge Timothy Freer at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta. With his guilty plea, Budrow agreed to be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole and waived all his rights to appeal the sentence. Freer sentenced Budrow to two consecutive sentences of life in prison without parole because Budrow had a previous strike.

At about 7:15 a.m. on Oct. 22, 2010, Budrow flagged down a Riverside County sheriff's sergeant who had just walked out of the sheriff's station in Lake Elsinore. Budrow told the sergeant he had killed a woman and her body was in the trunk of the car. The sergeant immediately detained Budrow who was then arrested when it was confirmed there was a body in the trunk.

The subsequent investigation revealed that the woman, Margret Dalton, 48, had been killed at a trailer off Highway 74 in Good Hope where Budrow had been living. An autopsy determined the cause of death to be strangulation by ligature.

Budrow and the victim had known each other for about six months and he asked her to come over to his trailer that night with the intention of killing her. The investigation revealed that Budrow believed the victim was a police informant.

Budrow had been released from state prison after previously violating his parole from a 2004 conviction in Riverside County for sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl. He was required to register as a sex offender and had a GPS tracking device which he cut off his ankle at the Lake Elsinore Outlets prior to going to the sheriff's station with Dalton's body.

In court Wednesday, Budrow also admitted to the special allegation of lying in wait which could have made him eligible for the death penalty had the case continued to trial.

The case, SWF10002142, was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Sean Crandall.