



Riverside County District Attorney

CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

PAUL E. ZELLERBACH
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

For Immediate Release
March 11, 2013

John Hall
Senior Public Information Specialist
Contact: 951.955.8662

JURY SELECTION TO BEGIN IN MURDER TRIAL OF THREE FORMER MARINES FACING THE DEATH PENALTY FOR THE 2008 KILLINGS OF A FELLOW MARINE AND HIS WIFE

RIVERSIDE – Jury selection is set to get underway tomorrow, March 12, 2013, in the trial of three former United States Marines charged with the 2008 murders of another Marine and his wife in their Winchester-area home in Riverside County.

Kevin Cox, DOB: 1-16-88; Emrys John, DOB: 12-27-89; and Tyrone Miller, DOB: 12-13-87, have each been charged with two counts of murder with special circumstances including murder during the commission of a burglary, robbery and rape by instrument, as well as double murder.

Riverside County District Attorney Paul Zellerbach is seeking the death penalty against all three defendants.

A fourth defendant in this case, Kesaun Sykes, DOB: 4-27-87, faces the same charges as well as the death penalty. His case has been severed from the other three defendants and Sykes has a trial readiness conference scheduled for Aug. 2, 2013, for his separate trial.

The trial for Cox, John, and Miller is being held before Judge Christian Thierbach in Dept. 43 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. Jury selection will begin with questionnaires being distributed to potential jurors. Voir dire questioning of potential jurors is scheduled for the last week of March and the first week of April.

Opening statements in the trial are scheduled to begin on Monday, April 8, 2013, and the trial is expected to continue into the middle of June.

In October 2008, Marine Sgt. Jan Pietrzak, 24, and his wife, Quiana Jenkins-Pietrzak, 26, were found brutally murdered in their home in the unincorporated area of Winchester/French Valley, north of Murrieta. Both victims were found bound and had been shot in the head.

Defendants Cox, John, and Miller all worked with Sgt. Pietrzak at one time as Marines while stationed at Camp Pendleton. It is believed that all four defendants went to the home to rob the victims, forced their way inside, and then physically assaulted Pietrzak, sexually assaulted Jenkins-Pietrzak, and murdered both victims.

The case, SWF026784, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Daniel DeLimon of the Homicide Unit.