

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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West Athens Man Gets Life Sentence for Domestic Violence Murder of Wife, Adult Son

A 72-year-old man was sentenced today to life in prison without the possibility of parole with three additional consecutive life sentences for the shooting death of his wife and son in 2010, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

John Edward Bloodworth (dob 3/29/45) of West Athens was found guilty on May 10, 2017, of one count of first-degree murder and one count of second-degree murder.

Deputy District Attorney Jessica Tillson said the jury also found true a special circumstance allegation of multiple murders and allegations of use of a handgun and causing great bodily injury and death.

On Jan. 26, a jury also found Bloodworth sane at the time of the killings.

On Oct. 20, 2010, Bloodworth confronted his wife, Gladys Bloodworth, 63, and accused her of being unfaithful. She denied the allegations and that evening went with her son, Jeremy Bloodworth, 25, to his bedroom, where they remained with the door locked, the prosecutor said.

The defendant remained outside his son's bedroom until after 2 a.m. on Oct. 21, 2010, when he kicked the bedroom door down. Once inside the bedroom, the defendant shot his son once in the head and shot his wife twice in the back of her neck, according to evidence presented at the trial.

Case YA079410 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.