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Alabama Attorney General



November 14, 2018

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Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces that Court of Criminal Appeals Upholds Geneva County Reckless Murder Conviction

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Steve Marshall announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals on Friday upheld the reckless murder conviction of Justin Tyler Walding. Walding, 31, of Webb, was convicted in the Geneva County Circuit Court in December 2017 for the murder of Cindy Craig Knight.

Evidence presented at trial indicated that on the evening of June 11, 2016, Walding had ingested a combination of alprazolam, hydrocodone, and methamphetamine and was travelling at a high rate of speed on Highway 52 in Geneva County. Walding drove on the wrong side of the highway and collided head-on with a vehicle driven by Knight. Knight's vehicle was knocked into a ditch, and she died in her vehicle from injuries caused by the crash.

The case was prosecuted by Geneva County District Attorney Kirke Adams' office. Walding was sentenced to life imprisonment and subsequently sought to have his conviction reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Appeals Division handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm the conviction. The Court did so in a decision issued on Friday, November 9.

Attorney General Marshall commended Assistant Attorney General Ferris Stephens of the Attorney General's Appeals Division for his successful work in this case.

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