

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2015

For More Information, contact:

Mike Lewis (334) 353-2199

Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491

Page 1 of 1

AG ANNOUNCES THAT COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS TUSCALOOSA COUNTY MURDER CONVICTION

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals last Thursday upheld the murder conviction of Tracey Michelle Grissom. Grissom, 33, of Akron, was convicted in Tuscaloosa County Circuit Court in August of 2014, for the murder of her ex-husband, Hunter Grissom.

Evidence presented at trial showed on May 15, 2012, Tracey Grissom drove to the Binion Creek Boat Landing on Lake Tuscaloosa and shot Hunter Grissom four times, two of which were in the back. Although the defense argued that Grissom shot her ex-husband in self-defense because she claimed he had raped and beaten her in 2010, prosecutors showed on cross-examination that this was a false allegation. Evidence was presented to show that the motivation for the murder was for Tracey Grissom to collect a \$103,000 insurance policy that she had purchased on Hunter Grissom's life.

The case was prosecuted at trial by the Attorney General's Criminal Trials Division. Grissom was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment and subsequently sought to have her conviction reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal 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 Thursday, July 2.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Kristi Wilkerson of the Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Division for her successful work in this case.

--30--

