

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
CALDWELL CIRCUIT COURT  
Indictment No. 97-CR-00053  
(On Change of Venue from Muhlenberg County)

COMMONWEALTH  
OF KENTUCKY, PLAINTIFF,  
VS. **FINAL JUDGMENT OF CONVICTION**  
**AND SENTENCE OF DEATH**  
ROBERT KEITH WOODALL, DEFENDANT.

(Filed Sep. 4, 1998)

The Defendant entered a plea of guilty on April 10, 1998, to the following charges: Count 1, the capital offense of murder of Sarah Hansen by cutting her with a sharp object and drowning her while in the commission of rape in the first degree; Count 2, the capital offense of kidnaping Sarah Hansen when she was not released alive; and Count 3, the offense of rape in the first degree by engaging in sexual intercourse with Sarah Hansen through the use of forcible compulsion in which she received serious physical injury and death.

A sentencing jury having been duly empaneled and sworn to hear evidence and affix punishment did on July 20, 1998, return a verdict of death as to Count 1 of the indictment, finding that aggravating circumstances exist, to-wit: That the Defendant's act of kidnaping and murder was engaged in the commission of rape in the first degree.

Thereupon, also the jury returned a punishment on rape in the first degree at life and on kidnaping at life. The Court did schedule sentencing regarding the final sentence for capital murder as well as sentencing for kidnaping and rape in the first degree for September 4, 1998, at 2:00 p.m.

On this date, September 4, 1998, the Defendant, Robert Keith Woodall, appeared in open Court with his attorneys; and the Court inquired of the Defendant and of counsel whether they had any legal cause why judgment should not be pronounced against him and afforded the Defendant and his counsel an opportunity to make statements in the Defendant's behalf and to present any information in mitigation of punishment; and the Court having given due consideration to such statements of counsel and to the nature and circumstances of the crime and the history, character, and condition of the Defendant, and there being no legal cause shown to the contrary, the Court finds the following:

The Defendant is not eligible for probation or probation with alternative sentencing or conditional discharge.

No sufficient cause having been shown why judgment should not be pronounced, **IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** by the Court that the Defendant is guilty of the following charge: Capital Murder, Count 1, as to the death of Sarah Hansen, KRS 507.020, and is hereby sentenced to death by lethal injection or such other means as may be provided for by law. The

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lethal injection shall take place before sunrise on the fifth Friday following the date of the mandate of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, if this judgment and sentence be upheld, unless the execution is further stayed by due process of law. Thereafter, the execution shall take place at a time or times designated by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, unless again stayed by due process of law.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that the Court has reviewed a presentence investigation report in regard to the sentence on the kidnaping and the rape in the first degree and finds the Defendant is not eligible for probation on these charges. Therefore, the Defendant is sentenced to life imprisonment on the kidnaping and life imprisonment on the rape.

By virtue of law, each of these sentences along with the death penalty must run concurrent.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND DIRECTED** that the Defendant shall forthwith be delivered to the custody of the Department of Corrections by delivering him to the Kentucky State Penitentiary, Eddyville, Kentucky.

After imposition of sentence, the Court informed the Defendant that his conviction and sentence of death would be automatically reviewed by the Kentucky Supreme Court. The Court further advised the Defendant that he had the right to file an appeal within ten (10) days from the Court Order from the

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bench and that upon filing of this Judgment and Sentence by the Clerk of the Caldwell Circuit Court, the Clerk shall file an automatic Notice of Appeal on behalf of the Defendant.

The Court finds that the Defendant lacks funds with which to obtain counsel and orders that the Department of Public Advocacy continue to represent the Defendant and take necessary steps to perfect the Defendant's appeal. The Court further orders that a copy of the transcript of the trial be made available to counsel for the Defendant to assist in perfecting the appeal.

Pursuant to the provisions of RCr 11.22, the Clerk of the Caldwell Circuit Court shall cause a certified copy of this Judgment to be served upon the Defendant and his counsel, and a certified copy shall also be served upon the Warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary at Eddyville, Kentucky, where the Defendant is now being held.

**WITNESS MY HAND** this 4th day of September, 1998.

/s/ Bill Cunningham  
Bill Cunningham  
Circuit Judge

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE**

[Omitted In Printing]

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