



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Michael T. Dougherty, District Attorney

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Defendant Aidan Von Grabow pleads guilty to Murder in the First Degree and related charges as an adult, immediately sentenced to Life.

On November 18, 2017, the Longmont Police Department was dispatched to 2450 Airport Road regarding a young woman who had been stabbed. When officers arrived, they found 20-year-old Makayla Grote fatally wounded in the breezeway of her apartment building. Her sister, a minor at the time, provided the police with the name of the attacker. Officers located Aidan Von Grabow shortly after midnight on that same night, parked in a residential neighborhood. During a search of the Defendant's home, officers located a self-titled "Death List" which listed numerous acquaintances of the Defendant. The police realized that the home outside which the Defendant had been arrested belonged to a family on the "Death List". The investigation further revealed that the Defendant had deliberately planned and executed the crimes charged.

The Defendant was subsequently charged with Murder in the First Degree, several counts of attempted murder, attempted arson, menacing, stalking, and other offenses. The Defendant was a juvenile at the time of the commission of the offenses; the District Attorney's Office petitioned to prosecute him as an adult, and the Court transferred the case to the District Court in March of 2018, after a week-long hearing.

On May 3, 2019, the Defendant pled guilty as an adult to one count of Murder in the First Degree. In addition, he pled guilty to two counts of Attempted Murder, two counts of Stalking, one count of Menacing, one count of Criminal Extortion, one count of Attempted Arson, and one count of Harassment. The People dismissed one count of Menacing, a count of Assault, and a count of Criminal Mischief, all three of these charges involved the Defendant's mother and grandfather.

The Defendant was sentenced on the count of Murder in the First Degree to life imprisonment in the Department of Corrections. He was sentenced on each of the Attempted Murder counts to 24 years in the Department of Corrections, he was sentenced on the Attempted Arson and the Extortion counts to 6 years each in the Department of Corrections and was sentenced on each of the Menacing and Stalking counts to 3 years in the Department of Corrections.

The sentences on the above counts will run concurrent to each other but will run consecutive to the sentence on the Harassment count. On that count, the court imposed credit for time served. It is important to note that each of the above-referenced sentences represents the maximum of the presumptive range for the charged offense.

Additionally, the Defendant pled guilty as a juvenile to one count of Attempted Murder and one count of Aggravated Juvenile Offender and was sentenced to 3 years and 11 months in the Division of Youth Services to run concurrent to the sentences imposed in the adult cases. As part of the plea agreement, the parties agreed that the Defendant can remain in the Division of Youth Services until his 21st birthday at which time he will be transferred to the Department of Corrections to complete his life sentence. He will be eligible for parole, as required by law, after having served 40 years (less earned time).

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, “There is no sentence that could ever repair the loss and trauma that this defendant inflicted on the victims. We are pleased with this outcome because it is the best possible resolution for the victims of this horrific event and for our community. The prosecution team did an outstanding job on this case; this guilty plea and life sentence is a direct result of our team’s commitment to securing justice for the victims and the family. The District Attorney’s Office thanks the Longmont and Lakewood Police Departments for their persistence, dedication, and superior investigation in this case. The Longmont Police Department apprehended the Defendant for this horrific murder and, as a result, prevented him from going on to harm others, as he had planned.”