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Trial Murder Verdict: People v. Dante Issac, Kern County Superior Court Case # BF182246A

Bakersfield – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a homicide case today. On April 27, 2022, a Kern County jury found Defendant Dante Issac guilty of Second-Degree Murder and felony Child Endangerment. Additional proceedings on the trial regarding allegations of prior convictions and circumstances in aggravation are scheduled to be heard before the judge on May 5, 2022. Deputy District Attorney Christine Antonios presented the evidence to the jury.

On August 24, 2020, Dante Issac stabbed his mother, Stephanie Body, to death in their shared apartment at 3100 block of Coventry Drive in Bakersfield. In the weeks and months leading up to the murder, Issac had been consistently using methamphetamine and suffering from hallucinations and paranoid delusions associated with his drug use. Issac's symptoms had been noticed by family members and others in the community, but despite multiple efforts at intervention by family, police, and mental health services, Issac repeatedly refused to accept long-term treatment and continued to abuse methamphetamine. Issac's frequent drug use in the months prior to the murder resulted in increasing paranoid delusions. On August 24, 2020, Issac began centering upon his own mother as a target of his paranoia. While in their shared home, Isaac barricaded himself in his room, where he manufactured a makeshift but deadly spear by binding a large kitchen knife to the end of a broomstick. Issac used this weapon to fatally stab his mother, causing her death within minutes of the attack.

Issac's four-year old daughter was in the apartment at the time of the murder and law enforcement officers found her in a bathtub, where the Defendant had placed her during the night.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction, stating, "Illegal drug use is never an excuse for murder, and frequent use of methamphetamine cannot justify the unprovoked killing of an innocent woman."

Issac faces a sentence of up to 38 years to life in prison. His sentencing date will be determined at the conclusion of further hearings, which are scheduled for May 5, 2022 in Department 3 before the

Honorable Judge John Oglesby.

Stephanie Body (Victim)



Dante Issac:

