



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Pleads Guilty to Murder Will Spend Life in Prison

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Dan Patterson, Greene County Prosecuting Attorney announced that Jeffrey Todd Wooderson, 43, of Springfield, Missouri, entered a guilty plea to murder in the first degree for killing Gary Russell, 57, on or about March 20, 2010. Gary Russell's body was found by his brother after Gary had not been heard from for several days. The investigation determined that Gary was beat to death while he was sleeping in his bed. Wooderson, Gary's roommate, was apprehended in Arkansas after leading police on a pursuit that began in Branson. Wooderson was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of probation, parole, or release except by act of the governor. This is considered a natural life sentence meaning that Wooderson will die in prison. The Hon. Calvin Holden presided over the guilty plea and sentencing.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney T. Myers. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Kevin Shipley was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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