



COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PAUL JOHNSON CONVICTED OF MURDER FOR 2012 STABBING DEATH

On Tuesday, a Fresno County jury convicted Paul Johnson (50, of Fresno) of murder for the 2012 stabbing death of Arthur McKown.

On January 25, 2012, Paul Johnson used a knife to stab Arthur McKown about the neck and face, killing him. During the trial, the jury learned that Mr. Johnson inflicted 39 stab wounds and 11 incised (cutting) wounds on Mr. McKown, resulting in his death. In its verdict, the jury also found that Mr. Johnson used a knife in the commission of the crime.

Today, in a hearing before the Honorable Judge Tim Kams, the Court found that Mr. Johnson has a "strike prior" for a previous conviction of Criminal Threats in 2001.

Mr. Johnson faces up to 31 years to life in custody at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation when he is sentenced on April 20, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., in Department 51 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

However, upon reaching the age of 60 and after serving 25 years, Mr. Johnson will be eligible for release under the Elderly Parole program.

The defendant is in custody at the Fresno County Jail pending his sentencing.

The Media may email FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

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