



Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

David Leyton, Prosecutor



MAN PLEADS IN STRANGLING DEATH OF GIRLFRIEND

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By Paul Janczewski

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FLINT -- A Flint man who strangled his girlfriend after she refused to add another woman to their love life pleaded no contest to manslaughter.

Larry W. McCoy, 52, faces up to 15 years in prison when sentenced Nov. 27 by Genesee Circuit Judge Joseph J. Farah.

McCoy was charged with murder in the Sept. 14, 2006, strangulation of Magdalene Brown. A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated as such at sentencing.

At an earlier hearing, Flint Police Sgt. Lee Ann Gaspar testified she and Sgt. David Bigelow interviewed an emotional McCoy after the incident.

McCoy told police an argument began when he tried to convince Brown, 51, to introduce a third person into their lovemaking. McCoy told police Brown became angry and slapped him, so he struck her back and held her down until she stopped struggling.

A pathologist said McCoy held the woman down for at least three minutes by wrapping his hands around her neck and killing her.

Naomi DeMuth, the victim's daughter, said she was living with the couple at the Holiday Village Mobile Home Park. She said her mother and McCoy had been dating for about seven months.

She said she woke up that morning and noticed her mother's car gone, then checked the bedroom and found her face up on the bed, dead with numerous bruises on her neck.

McCoy, an Ohio native who is being held without bond in the Genesee County Jail, spent time in a Florida prison for killing a live-in girlfriend there. He was convicted of second-degree murder in 1989, but his 40-year prison sentence ended with his release in 2001, officials said.

Attorney Patricia Lazzio, who represents McCoy, earlier said manslaughter was a proper charge because the death resulted from an argument that got "out of control."
