



# Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

## David Leyton, Prosecutor



## Ivan L. Page sentenced to life in prison in slaying of Deena Brown

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**FLINT, Michigan** -- When Deena Brown was strangled to death with a sweatshirt, her family lost not only a loved one, but hope.

Hope that Brown, a Flint prostitute, would one day be able to turn her life around. Hope that she would be able to raise her two children well and be there for them.

"When you took Deena's life away from her, you took hope away from us that she could have a better life," her cousin Terry Voight told Ivan L. Page.

Page, 39, was sentenced Thursday by Circuit Judge Archie Hayman to mandatory life in prison. He was found guilty last month of Brown's slaying.

He was linked to the death using DNA that matched his that was found on the sweatshirt used to strangle Brown.

At his sentencing, Page said he plans to file a motion for a new trial because he doesn't believe evidence linking him to the slayings of two other prostitutes in 1998 and 1999 should have been introduced in trial. Criminal trials for the deaths of Patricia Peeler and Lisa Price are pending

Page also said before being sentenced that he couldn't have killed Brown.

"Murder, violence is not part of my criminal history, period," Page said. "I was a petty thief, a scam artist. But to take a life, never."

Voight, who fought back tears as she addressed Page, said despite his claim of innocence there's no doubt in her mind he killed her cousin. She said she'll never forget testimony from where a former cell mate who said Page told him he enjoyed killing prostitutes and no would care because of their lifestyle.

"But people care about (them) because (prostitutes) are human beings," Voight said. "It didn't give you the right to judge her or her lifestyle."

As Hayman sentenced Page, he told the convicted felon that he'd had a fair trial. He also echoed sentiments by Voight that Brown's death was a heinous crime.

"Whoever killed Ms. Brown is someone who ought not to be on the streets ever again," Hayman said.