



Subscribe Now | Pay Bill | Place an Ad | Contact Customer Service | Contact The Detroit News

RSS | Email Newsletters | PDA

Search **CLICK HERE NOW**
 Archive: Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon | Today

Home News Local Sports Autos Business Entertainment Lifestyle **Opinion** Classifieds Jobs Cars Real Estate For Rent Shopping
 Editorial Columnists Editorial Cartoons Blogs Forums Cybersurveys

Editorials

RSS Feeds Email Headlines Text Alerts On Your PDA



Article Tools: Print Email Comment Text Size: Save Share

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Editorial: Grant deserves maximum jail time

Macomb County felon makes jokes about wife's murder

The Detroit News

Macomb Circuit Judge Diane Druzinski should throw the book at Stephen Grant when she sentences him for murder later this month. In taped conversations and in love letters to jail mates, Grant shows no remorse for killing his wife, Tara.

In fact, he sees himself as some sort of "gangsta" celebrity and is even sparking romance with women jail birds also serving time for murder.

Grant makes jokes about murdering his wife last year. And in toying with the idea of a book deal on the murder, he imagined a publisher's contract that would avoid turning profits over to his dead wife's estate, an estate that benefits the couple's children.

Advertisement

Grant was convicted of second-degree murder, which means he can expect a sentence of anywhere from 30 years to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Complicated state sentencing guidelines will shape Druzinski's sentence. However, among the considerations should be the horrific impact the murder had on Tara Grant's children and family -- no small matter considering that Stephen Grant chopped his wife into pieces and stuffed her into plastic bags after the murder.

Since he has no remorse, Grant doesn't deserve even a small sentencing break. During his trial, the bug-eyed killer was taped -- not regretting his deed -- but worrying that people made fun of his disconcerting

wide-eyed expression. "People in here make fun of me," he said. "They say, 'Do the Stephen Grant eyes.' "

In repellent conversation, Grant and his sister joke about the haphazard way he tried to dispose of the body and giggle over whether Tara Grant was put back together in the coffin before the funeral. That remark especially sickened her family.

The remarks were recorded in 50 hours of taped conversations Stephen Grant had with his sister during jail visiting hours.

Fortunately, lack of remorse and conscience can work against Grant in sentencing, according to legal experts.

"Any insensitivity he displayed toward the murder of his wife could be a factor the court could take into account," said Larry Dubin, professor of law at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Grant clearly relishes his swaggering jailhouse persona. Judge Druzinski should see that he gets a lifetime to

Related Articles

More on this topic

- Tapes could influence Grant's sentence
- Grant and sister joked about slaying, jail tapes show
- Grant swaggers in jailhouse chats
- Grant to fellow killer: 'Ask the ladies if they know 'Steve Grant' "
- Grant flirts with fellow killer
- Grant schemes, jokes on jail tapes
- Stephen Grant's jail account garnished by \$24 in 'symbolic' move; he owes \$50M
- Agreement reached on custody of Grant kids
- Mediation continues in Grant custody case
- Grant waives parental rights
- Grant surrenders parental rights; custody still undecided
- 3 jurors resisted 1st degree
- Grant's story served him well
- Grant jurors speak: 'Unfortunately all the jurors didn't agree on Murder One'
- Tara's sister: 'Justice was served'

Metro-TaraLynnGrant

live it.

Article Tools: Print Email Comment

In the Blogs...

Lions Blog



Mike O'Hara: ... Continued

Neal Rubin's Blog



Neal Rubin: A nuclear submarine like the USS Michigan, spotlighted in today's column, costs a lot. More than a good starting pitcher in major league baseball, even. The Michigan ... Continued

Homestyle Blog



Marge Colborn: Sunday, Feb. 3, at 9 p.m., HGTV airs "Ultimate Bedrooms for Romance," traveling across the country and even to Thailand, to showcase 10 spaces that spell romance for ... Continued

More blogs

MORE IN: EDITORIALS

Editorial: Ongoing cover-up adds to Kilpatrick's troubles - 02/07/2008

Editorial: Grant deserves maximum jail time - 02/07/2008

Do Republicans want a winner or a right winger? - 02/07/2008

Do Democrats want a fighter or a breath of hope? - 02/07/2008

Michigan's economy needs drug shield law - 02/07/2008

Secret deal raises some fresh questions - 02/07/2008

Michigan is trying to reduce feral swine - 02/07/2008

Super Bowl ad shows benefit of disabled workers - 02/07/2008

Detroit should end attempts to conceal settlement files - 02/06/2008

Primary voters wisely consider character - 02/06/2008

Legal opinion won't help workers who want a better life and fuel economy - 02/06/2008

Certain immigrants deserve ID, but state must prevent fraud - 02/06/2008

Site Index

Essentials:

- Home
Page One PDF
Sports PDF
Weather
Horoscope
Lottery
Crossword
Sudoku
Contact Us
Multimedia:
Photos/Video
News Photos
Autos Photos
Audio Galleries
Video
Photo Store

News:

- Nation/World
Politics/Govt.
Elections
Religion
Local/State:
Metro/State
Wayne
Oakland
Macomb
Livingston
Commuting
Schools
Michigan History
Obituaries
Death Notices

Autos:

- Autos Insider
Drive
Joyrides
Auto Shows
Auto Reviews
Auto Photos
Autos Talk
Test Drive blog
Business:
Business News
Personal
Finance
Stocks
Technology

Sports:

- Sports
Lions/NFL
Pistons/NBA
Red Wings/NHL
Tigers/MLB
Shock/WNBA
MSU
U-M
More Colleges
High Schools
Golf
Motor Sports
More Sports
Ski Guide
Scoreboards

Entertainment:

- Entertainment
Music
Calendar
Movies
Movie Finder
TV Listings
TV/Radio
Restaurants
Wine Report
Celebs
Performing Arts
Casinos
Puzzles/Games

Forums:

- Forums Index
Lions Talk
Wings Talk
Pistons Talk
Tigers Talk
Ask Mike
O'Hara
Big Ten Talk
News Talk
Autos Talk
Faith Talk
Opinions:
Editorials
Letter to Editor
Blogs
Columnists
Cybersurveys

Lifestyle:

- Lifestyle
Homestyle
Food
Recipe Finder
Health/Fitness
Fashion/Shopping
Families/Parenting
Travel/Recreation
MichMoms
MichDads
Other
Special Reports

Special Reports



Special report: The foreclosure factory

Metro Detroit is a national center of the foreclosure crisis, leaving thousands of families financially ruined and depressing property values. - Nov. 26, 2007

The Detroit Institute of Arts: Your guide to the new DIA - Nov. 5, 2007

Detroit tax breaks go to the well-heeled - Oct. 31, 2007

South of the equator, Ford and GM prosper - Aug. 13, 2007

April 15 and you: Help with figuring out your taxes - Jan. 31, 2008

More Special Reports



© Copyright 2008 The Detroit News. All rights reserved.

Terms of Service | Contact | Help