



Rod Underhill, District Attorney
1021 Southwest Fourth Avenue, Room 600
Portland, Oregon 97204-1193
Phone: 503-988-3162
www.mcda.us

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Justin Joseph Panek sentenced for burglarizing Nancy Bergeson's residence

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that 28-year-old Justin Joseph Panek received a 10 year prison sentence for crimes he committed in Multnomah, Washington and Linn Counties. Among these crimes was the November 24, 2009 burglary of Nancy Bergeson's residence.

Ms. Bergeson was a federal public defender living in the Bridlemile neighborhood of southwest Portland.

On March 12, 2020, the person responsible for Ms. Bergeson's homicide, Christopher Alexander Williamson, pleaded guilty to one count of manslaughter in the first degree and one count of burglary in the first degree. For additional information on that change of plea and sentencing, please click [here](#).

The family of Ms. Bergeson is in full support of the outcome of this case. They have been heavily involved, and had a significant role, in all aspects of the pretrial negotiations that occurred in this case and in State v. Williamson.

By pleading guilty, Panek admitted that on November 24, 2009 he unlawfully entered Ms. Bergeson's home in the 4100 block of Southwest Hamilton Street in Portland, Oregon with the intent to commit the crime of theft.

Under Oregon law, under certain circumstances, a person charged with a crime can resolve their case outside of the initiating jurisdiction. As such, the resolution of Panek's cases that originated in Linn and Washington Counties was facilitated and approved by the Multnomah County Circuit Court.

In total, Panek received a sentence totaling 10 years in prison.

The charges he was convicted and sentenced on are included in the table below.

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Court Case No.	County	Charge(s)	Sentence
16CR43848	Washington County	Robbery in the second degree X 2	70 months in prison concurrent to the sentence imposed in Washington County case 17CR01658
17CR01658	Washington County	Solicitation to commit murder	120 months in prison
17CR56382	Linn County	Robbery in the second degree	70 months in prison concurrent to the sentence imposed in Washington County case 17CR01658
17CR62156	Multnomah County	Burglary in the first degree	60 months in prison concurrent to the sentence imposed in Washington County case 17CR01658

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office is unable to comment on the factual evidence on any case initiated outside of Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office recognizes the Portland Police Bureau, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Oregon, the Washington County Sheriff’s Office, the Linn County District Attorney’s Office and the Washington County District Attorney’s Office for their cooperation and dedicated efforts investigating these cases.

The State of Oregon was represented by Multnomah County Chief Deputy District Attorney Don Rees and Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Todd Jackson.

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