

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on February 28, Hai Long Tran, age 46 of Seaside, was sentenced to a term of 15 years-to-life for the second-degree murder of Hong Ngoc Nguyen, who was the mother of his two children, ages 15 and 18.

On April 14, 2016, Seaside police officers responded to an address on Kenneth Street in the city of Seaside to find Nguyen's body in an upstairs bedroom with severe head wounds that appeared to be caused from being bludgeoned with a lamp. The Monterey County Coroner determined the victim was strangled as well as had suffered twenty-one blows to the head causing several skull fractures.

The investigation determined that earlier on the day of her death, Nguyen had been at the Monterey County Courthouse applying for a restraining order prohibiting contact by the defendant. In her request, she stated that Tran was stalking her daily and she feared for her life. Police investigation determined that Tran had installed a GPS device on her vehicle and a video surveillance camera in the victim's bedroom.

During sentencing, the teenage daughter of the victim and defendant bravely addressed the court and described the impact of the death of her mother and the incarceration of her father has had on her life currently and well as the future effect of the loss of both parents for both her and her brother for the rest of their lives.

For help, contact the local Domestic Violence Crisis Lines through the YWCA at (831) 372-6300 or (831) 757-1001 or visit the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Monterey County website for more information - www.co.monterey.ca.us/dvcc

The case was investigated by the Seaside Police Department, Peninsula Regional Violence & Narcotics Team, Department of Justice and the District Attorney Bureau of Investigation.

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