Sept. 29, 2017

North Hills Man Found Guilty of Hate Crime Killing of Son, Murder of Wife

A jury has found a 71-year-old man guilty of fatally stabbing his wife at their North Hills home and then shooting his son to death outside of the house, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Late yesterday, Shehadeh Khalil Issa was found guilty of two counts of willful, deliberate and premeditated murder with a special circumstance allegation of multiple murders in case PA086010.

The jury also found true a hate crime allegation and allegations of use of a knife and a shotgun as deadly weapons.

Deputy District Attorneys Emily Cole and Leila Tahmassebi prosecuted the case.

Sentencing is scheduled on Oct. 26 in Department E of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch. Issa faces life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The defendant killed his wife, Rabihah Shibi Issa, 68, with a knife on or between March 27 and 29, 2016, prosecutors said. On March 29, 2016, Shehadeh Issa then used a shotgun to kill his son Amir Issa, 38, prosecutors added.

According to evidence presented at the trial, police responding to the family's home after the shooting discovered the bodies of Amir Issa outside of the house and Rabihah Issa's body was found inside a bathroom. The murders were motivated by the defendant's desire to sell the house they all shared and an extreme hatred of his son's sexuality, prosecutors said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.