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NEWS RELEASE

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North Hills Man Sentenced for Hate Crime Killing of Son, Murder of Wife

A 71-year-old man was sentenced today to two terms of life in state prison without the possibility of parole for stabbing his wife at their North Hills home and then shooting his son because of his sexual orientation, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Sept. 28, a jury found Shehadeh Khalil Issa 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.

Issa fatally stabbed his wife, Rabihah Shibi Issa, 68, on or between March 27 and 29, 2016, prosecutors said. Shehadeh Issa then fatally shot his son Amir Issa, 38, on March 29, 2016, 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.