



TANEY COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DAWN COLE SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN (15) YEARS FOR MURDER

FORSYTH, MO – Taney County Prosecuting Attorney, Jeffrey M. Merrell announced today that DAWN COLE, dob: 05/11/1973 of Branson, Missouri was sentenced today by Taney County Circuit Judge Mark Orr to fifteen (15) years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for the class A felony of murder in the second degree. Probation was denied.

On October 10, 2006 at the 76 Express Inn in Branson, Dawn Cole got into fight with her boyfriend. During the fight as the boyfriend was attempting to leave, she stabbed him with a large kitchen knife in the chest. The boyfriend was hospitalized and later died on October 21, 2006 from the injuries. During the incident, DAWN COLE was high on methamphetamine, and had been using it continuously during the days leading up to the stabbing.

In response to the plea of guilty, Taney County Prosecuting Attorney Jeffrey M. Merrell reiterated his earlier sentiment stating, “This stabbing shows the danger posed by ongoing and unaddressed domestic violence between partners as this was the last of many domestic disturbance reports involving Dawn Cole. Furthermore, this terrible incident shows the effect that that chronic methamphetamine use can have on a person’s stability and state of mind. Most importantly, I am hopeful that this sentence brings a sense of closure to the family of the victim in their time of grief.”

For more information please visit www.taneycountyprosecutor.com.

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