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NEWS RELEASE

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From: Patty Perlow, District Attorney

Details: Angela McAnulty, Oregon's Only Woman Death Row Inmate, Re-sentenced to Life Imprisonment without the Possibility of Parole

On the evening of December 9, 2009, the Lane County Sheriff's office responded with Eugene Fire personnel to a 911 call of an unresponsive juvenile female in a home in the 100 block of Howard Avenue in Eugene. At the residence, paramedics discovered 15-year-old Jeanette Marie Maples lifeless. She was immediately transported to PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend, where she was declared deceased. It was apparent she was severely malnourished, dehydrated, and had open and healing wounds covering her entire body from head to toe. Some wounds were so severe, her bones were exposed. An emergency room physician indicated Jeanette's injuries were the worst child abuse injuries she had ever seen, including in textbooks.

Detectives from the Lane County Sheriff's office investigated the death with the Lane County Medical Examiner and arrested Angela Darlene McAnulty (Jeanette's mother, then age 41) and Richard Anthony McAnulty (Jeanette's step-father, then age 40) the same night on the charge of Aggravated Murder, for causing Jeanette's death during the course of torturing and maiming her. The investigation concluded Angela McAnulty was primarily responsible for the infliction of the severe injuries and starvation, while Richard McAnulty engaged in some direct abuse, but was primarily responsible as an accomplice to Angela McAnulty's criminal actions. DHS Child Welfare took custody of the two other children in the home (Jeanette's 11-year-old younger sister and 5-year-old brother).

On December 16, 2009, a Lane County Grand Jury indicted both parents on the charge of Aggravated Murder. Nearly fourteen months later, on February 1, 2011, Angela McAnulty plead guilty in Lane County Circuit Court to the charge of Aggravated Murder while represented by her two appointed attorneys, Kenneth Hadley and Steven Krasik. However, because Aggravated Murder under Oregon law required a sentencing decision by a jury, a trial was conducted to determine the sentence. After a 14-day trial, the empaneled jury decided Angela McAnulty should receive a sentence of death for murdering her daughter in the course of torturing her. That sentence was ordered by the Honorable Kip Leonard on February 25, 2011.

Under Oregon law, a sentence of death is automatically reviewed on appeal by the Oregon Supreme Court to determine whether the prosecution or trial judge made errors requiring reversal of the conviction. Angela McAnulty was appointed additional counsel to handle that appeal. After briefing and argument on her various claims of error, the Oregon Supreme Court affirmed her conviction on October 30, 2014, and ruled the sentence of death lawful. The United States Supreme Court declined to review the case in 2015.

Thereafter, Angela McAnulty was appointed three additional attorneys to review the case to determine if her original two attorneys did an adequate job representing her. In February 2016, the new attorneys filed a Petition for Post-Conviction Relief in Washington County Circuit Court

(McAnulty v. Persson, C160443CV) claiming her original attorneys did an inadequate job representing Angela McAnulty in several respects.

After a 12-day trial in April 2018, and substantial additional briefing and argument, the assigned judge, Sr. Judge J. Burdette Pratt (formerly of Malheur County) decided on July 10, 2019, that Angela McAnulty's guilty plea should be vacated and the matter returned to Lane County Circuit Court to be prosecuted again from the beginning.

Judge Pratt ruled Angela McAnulty's attorneys failed to exercise reasonable professional skill and judgment (1) in advising her to plead guilty to the charge of Aggravated Murder without any concessions in return from the state, (2) in failing to adequately prepare for and present evidence on the question of future dangerousness during the penalty phase, and (3) in failing to conduct an adequate investigation and present evidence regarding Petitioner's mental health and psychological trauma during the penalty phase. Judge Pratt rejected fifteen other claims for relief.

On August 30, 2019, the Oregon Department of Justice filed a notice of appeal to challenge Sr. Judge Pratt's rulings and order. Angela McAnulty's attorneys filed a cross-appeal.

Notably, in 2019, the Oregon Legislature passed SB 1013, *reducing the potential penalties for defendants who murder children through intentional maiming and torture*. For any defendant sentenced for that crime (now the lesser charge of Murder in the First Degree) after January 1, 2020, including those who committed the crime *before* January 1, 2020, the maximum sentence is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole.

The parties voluntarily engaged in settlement discussions through the Oregon Court of Appeals settlement program. Those discussions resulted in settlement of all pending litigation.

This past week, on July 30, 2020, a hearing was conducted in Washington County Circuit Court in Hillsboro. Angela McAnulty (now age 51) appeared by video with two of her attorneys from Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The Oregon Department of Justice (Attorney General's office), the Lane County District Attorney's office, Angela McAnulty's third attorney, and Jeanette Maples' now-adult sister appeared in person at that hearing. Sr. Judge Pratt appeared by video conference from eastern Oregon. Sr. Judge Pratt ratified the Settlement Agreement of the parties.

In summary, the settlement agreement provides that the sentence of death is vacated, and Angela McAnulty is sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. Both parties dismiss their appeals in the Oregon Court of Appeals, and Angela McAnulty agrees "she will never attempt to challenge in any court her aggravated murder conviction or the stipulated true-life sentence."

Richard McAnulty plead guilty to Murder by Abuse on April 4, 2011. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, with no possibility of parole prior to service of at least 25 years in prison. He did not appeal his sentence.

It is unknown whether Judge Pratt reported his findings regarding the inadequacy of Mr. Hadley and Mr. Krasik's representation to the Oregon State Bar, or whether either attorney has suffered any consequence related to their conduct resulting in this outcome.