

ADVISORY: WEBCAST OF SUPREME COURT PROCEEDING

Monday, April 17, 2023

Members of the media and the public are advised that the following proceeding before the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia will be livestreamed on the Courts of Nova Scotia website on Thursday, April 20, and Friday, April 21, 2023:

CRH 498639 – His Majesty the King v. William Michael Sandeson

Following a lengthy trial in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in 2017, William Michael Sandeson was convicted of first-degree murder in the killing of Taylor Samson in Halifax in August 2015. Mr. Sandeson subsequently appealed his conviction and a second trial was ordered.

That trial commenced in the Supreme Court on Jan. 9, 2023. Just over a month later, on Feb. 18, 2023, a jury found Mr. Sandeson guilty of second-degree murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison.

Following the verdict, the trial judge allowed jurors to make recommendations on the period of time that Mr. Sandeson must serve in prison before he is eligible to apply for parole. The range for second-degree murder is a minimum of 10 years to a maximum of 25 years. The jurors' recommendations are not binding but may be considered by the judge as part of the sentencing process.

This sentencing hearing is scheduled for two full days starting at 9:30 a.m. AST on Thursday, April 20, 2023. The matter will be heard by Justice James Chipman, who also presided over the second jury trial.

As part of the sentencing process, the victim's family, friends and members of the community have the opportunity to submit victim impact statements. A total of 24 victim impact statements are expected to be entered in this case, 16 of which will be read into the record. Depending on individual preferences, not all of the statements read in court will be broadcast.

The public can watch the livestream on the Courts of Nova Scotia website here.

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