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MEDIA ADVISORY: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 25, 2025

FMR. SOLDIER CONVICTED OF MURDERING WIFE SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN PRISON

EL PASO, Texas (07/25/2025) – After deliberating for nine-and-a-half hours, an El Paso jury found a man guilty in the murder of his wife. The guilty verdict was read out the evening of Wednesday, July 23, by Judge Bill Moody of the 34th District Court.

Linwood Smith was 21 years of age on June 3, 2020 when he was arrested and charged with the murder of his wife, Kerica Robinson. Robinson's friend had filed a missing person report with the El Paso Police Department after not being able to get in touch with her for nearly a week, including on her 21st birthday, which was June 1. A police search of the couple's East El Paso apartment led to the discovery of Robinson's body in a small storage closet, wrapped in black trash bags under Smith's military-issued gear. She had been shot in the head.

On Friday, June 25, the same jury found the crime was committed under the immediate influence of sudden passion and handed down the maximum sentence of 20 years in a state prison facility and a \$10,000 fine.

"We respect the jury's verdict and we are appreciative of their service over the past two weeks," said District Attorney James Montoya. "I want to extend my sympathies to the family of Ms. Kerica Robinson, who has been waiting for this trial for nearly 5 years. My Office is committed to resolving our oldest cases as swiftly as possible."

Assistant District Attorneys Samantha Nelson and Jose Garcia represented the State of Texas in the prosecution of this case.

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