

1 STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT  
2 COUNTY OF WASHINGTON TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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4 State of Minnesota **SENTENCING**

5 Plaintiff,

6 vs. **Court File No 82-CR-17-242**

7

8 Stephen Carl Allwine,

9 Defendant.

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11 The above-entitled matter came duly on for  
12 sentencing before the Honorable B. William Ekstrum,  
13 one of the Judges of the above-named Court, on the  
14 2nd day of February, 2017, at the Washington County  
15 Judicial Center, City of Stillwater, County of  
16 Washington, State of Minnesota.

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18 A P P E A R A N C E S

19 Jamie Kreuser and Fred A. Fink, Assistant  
20 Washington County Attorneys, appeared as counsel for  
21 and on behalf of the plaintiff.

22 Kevin DeVore, Esq., appeared as counsel  
23 for and on behalf of the defendant.

24

25

1 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were  
2 duly had of record:)

3 THE COURT: Please be seated.

4 This is the State of Minnesota versus  
5 Stephen Allwine. This is a sentencing hearing.  
6 Let's have appearances, for the record.

7 MR. FINK: The state appears by Fred A.  
8 Fink, Jr.

9 MS. KREUSER: Jamie Lynn Kreuser.

10 MR. DEVORE: Kevin DeVore on behalf of  
11 Mr. Allwine, who is with me, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right. Let's first turn  
13 to Mr. Fink for the state. And I will simply make a  
14 comment that even though the sentence is prescribed  
15 by statute, it's an appropriate time to receive  
16 comments, victim impact statements, and the like.  
17 So I turn to you, Mr. Fink.

18 MR. FINK: Your Honor, would you like the  
19 state's statement prior to the victim impact or  
20 after?

21 THE COURT: I'll wait.

22 MR. FINK: Okay.

23 THE COURT: Do you have a notion as to who  
24 you would like to call first to make an impact  
25 statement?

1 MR. FINK: Sharon Middendorf.

2 THE COURT: Please come on up. In fact,  
3 you can -- that's fine, too, at counsel table. I  
4 will allow you to be wherever you are comfortable  
5 being. You may proceed whenever you like.

6 VICTIM: Judge Ekstrum. Thank you for  
7 listening to me today. On November 13th, 2016 a  
8 tsunami of great loss gripped the lives of the  
9 family, friends, church members and dog training  
10 students of Amy Allwine when she was murdered in a  
11 malicious act of violence and selfishness.

12 This horrifying act swept away the life of  
13 my dearest friend. A friend who brought boundless  
14 joy, unconditional love, and unfettered happiness to  
15 our lives. Her loss has left a gaping wound in our  
16 hearts that can never be completely healed, and we  
17 will carry a burden of grief with us forever.

18 Amy was one of the most talented, creative  
19 and generous people I have ever known. The first I  
20 met her, I knew I wanted to be her friend. She was  
21 a good person. A loving daughter, sister, and  
22 friend.

23 Mother Teresa wrote: Spread love  
24 everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you  
25 without leaving happier. Your Honor, this was Amy.

1 She had an energy, a light, that emitted love and  
2 happiness. A light that spread to everyone around  
3 her. She has been taken from us senselessly, and  
4 now we are facing a darker world of no mores.

5 I vividly recall arriving at Amy's house  
6 that night, and Joanne Zutz, Amy's mother, bravely  
7 coming out of their car to tell me that Amy had  
8 died. As we held each other and sobbed, Joanne  
9 whispered to me, I've lost my best friend. Now, I  
10 often hear Joanne woefully talk about how she still  
11 thinks of picking up the phone to call Amy to have  
12 coffee, only to remember that Amy is gone, and my  
13 heart breaks. There will be no more coffee chats  
14 for Joanne with Amy.

15 She was her father's joy. Over this last  
16 year, we would get together, and he would talk with  
17 such wonderment about how creative she was. How she  
18 could take the simplest materials and craft a piece  
19 of dog equipment, or fix something around the house.  
20 He was in awe with how skilled she was, as he puts  
21 it, in everything. The wound in my heart tears open  
22 more widely hearing the pain of his loss. There  
23 will be no more wonderment for Chuck about his  
24 beloved daughter.

25 I think about now Amy will miss Joseph

1 growing up. No books to read together. No more  
2 movies to go to together. No bike rides. No high  
3 school graduation plans. No more feast trips. No  
4 more playing with the dogs. I think of how Joseph  
5 will miss having this amazing mother, and all she  
6 had to give him, and it tears the wound in my heart  
7 open even wider. There will be no more days with  
8 her beloved son.

9 My wounded heart is torn open every time I  
10 think of the loss her sister and brother are  
11 experiencing. I think of how excited Amy was for  
12 her sister to have found her husband. And she was  
13 so excited to see them build a life together. I  
14 remember her telling me about the special times with  
15 her brother when they took long walks after Friday  
16 night dinners, and how proud she was of him, and all  
17 he was doing. There will be no more excitement. No  
18 more walks.

19 For the dog community, Amy transformed  
20 people. She enriched their lives and gave some  
21 renewed purpose. She was always patient. Always  
22 ready to offer support. Help students find  
23 confidence and trust in their dogs and themselves.  
24 She brought positive energy when spirits were  
25 flagging. She would tell students, you've got this,

1 and would be there when they needed a shoulder. She  
2 believed in people and helped them believe in  
3 themselves. She built her dream, let me be a part  
4 of it, and her loss is a hard one that grows deeper  
5 seeing the pain and sorrow with everyone she touched  
6 in our dog community. There is no more you've got  
7 this.

8 She lit the world with her smile and I  
9 miss her deeply every day. I am heart broken. She  
10 was a best friend, mentor and coach. All of which  
11 is no more. We shared stories of family, travel,  
12 music, food, books, and dog training.

13 I hurt every day over the pain that her  
14 loss has brought to family, friends, and myself.  
15 She had so much love and joy to give to the world.  
16 So much more she wanted to experience and do and  
17 that is gone forever. Her loss is a loss gone too  
18 soon.

19 I carry the memory of her love and joy in  
20 my heart, and it helps soften the wound and lighten  
21 the darkness of no mores.

22 Thank you.

23 THE COURT: Thank you.

24 MR. FINK: Steven Zutz.

25 THE COURT: Go ahead.

1           VICTIM: Good morning. Thank you, Your  
2 Honor, for allowing me to speak to you in court  
3 today.

4           On November 13th, 2016 I lost more than a  
5 sister. Amy was a source of pride, joy and comfort.  
6 Someone who would try to make you, or anyone around  
7 you -- around her, feel special. An amazing cook  
8 and baker whose homemade food was delicious, but  
9 also made with love. No matter who she was making  
10 the food for, it was always the person's favorite,  
11 because she cared enough about you to remember what  
12 you liked.

13           If you were down, she was always ready to  
14 help you, offering a fun quote, some humor, and  
15 love. She would gently continue so you could laugh  
16 again. Wanting nothing more than to see you happy.  
17 Her own laugh was heartwarming, infectious, and  
18 identifiable that is silenced, never to be heard  
19 again.

20           My sister was a confidant who would listen  
21 and give an honest opinion if asked. Someone who  
22 paid close attention to me, and always made sure to  
23 ask how I was doing, and how the things that I  
24 enjoyed doing were going.

25           To me, she was a source of light, and a

1 positive attitude, and an example to the world. She  
2 was a source of unconditional love, which is so  
3 often hard to find nowadays. To say she is missed  
4 is an understatement. And as time passes she will  
5 be missed more and more as the trials of life  
6 accumulate. Even now, not a day goes by that I  
7 don't miss her, and the terrible pain of such a  
8 senseless act against such a wonderful person that I  
9 shall carry the rest of my life.

10           They say time heals all wounds, but surely  
11 the scar from this would will last forever.

12           Thank you.

13           MR. FINK: Kathy Wassling (ph) on behalf  
14 of Charles and Joanne Zutz.

15           VICTIM: Your Honor, our names are Charles  
16 and Joanne Zutz, and we are Amy's parents.

17           With Amy's passing we are deprived of one  
18 of the greatest joys in our lives, and the source of  
19 some of our greatest happiness. Someone very  
20 precious to us has been taken away. Not just a  
21 man's wife, but also a baby girl born to us, and a  
22 young lady we raised.

23           A daughter who gave us tremendous pleasure  
24 and of whom we were very proud. And to add to our  
25 grief, our grandson, Joseph, has been robbed of a



1 mother who loved him dearly.

2           As I, Amy's father, walked her down the  
3 aisle on her wedding day, her smile was radiant and  
4 beaming in a way I have not seen before. I will  
5 never forget thinking, surely one could not find a  
6 happier bride. I put her hand into Steve's, and I  
7 asked him to take good care of my little girl. He  
8 promised he would. We trusted him completely with  
9 the health and happiness and wellbeing of our  
10 beloved daughter.

11           The depth of our grief and disappointment  
12 now is too great to put into words. We knew, just  
13 by listening to her conversations, that she loved  
14 her husband and was proud of him and very happy to  
15 be his wife, almost to the very end. What happened  
16 along the way, somewhere during the past 20 years,  
17 we do not know. What we have heard and what we have  
18 learned through these proceedings have not only  
19 astonished us, but has increased our suffering  
20 greatly.

21           We heard that Amy and her husband were  
22 discussing marital problems in February of 2016.  
23 But how can we believe that having learned that our  
24 daughter was still being cheated on months later.

25           When Amy was threatened, we too, all of

1 us, the family she loved, was threatened as well.  
2 We learned she was forced to hold her terror within  
3 herself, and she was refused even the solace of  
4 those she loved. How evil that is to cut her off  
5 from those who loved her, and could have given her  
6 support that she so desperately needed.

7           How evil it is to make me, Amy's own  
8 father, a party to her death. The cruelty caused to  
9 Amy and her family is beyond words.

10           The betrayal we have suffered has caused  
11 grief at times that we can hardly breath, and our  
12 chest feels as if our hearts will explode. No  
13 mother should ever have to hear the words, your  
14 daughter is dead. Or no such grief as Amy's mother  
15 must now endure.

16           She has been deprived of her daughter and  
17 her best friend. No longer will Amy and her mother  
18 meet for coffee as they did a couple of times a  
19 week. No longer will our family have Amy's smile or  
20 her easy laughter, or just her at the table at our  
21 traditional Friday night dinners. The actions  
22 perpetrated on Amy and our family has terminated  
23 many beloved family traditions. Our world is now  
24 gray, and our usual activities seem empty and void.  
25 We have been robbed of our motivation and drive.

1           What makes this even hard to bear is the  
2 fact that this did not have to happen. What makes  
3 this even harder still to bear is the way Steve  
4 accepted our loving hospitality and lived with us in  
5 our home for two months after Amy's death. We  
6 hugged him and we told him we loved him, but he was  
7 living a lie. Deceitfully stealing affection that  
8 should have been Amy's. When we look at him now, we  
9 see a very selfish person who has only thought of  
10 himself, and we are terribly disappointed in him.

11           Finally, what we have learned from this  
12 tragedy is that you should never take those you hold  
13 dear for granted because they can be snatched away  
14 from you in an instant. And the hole in your heart,  
15 made by their absence, can be filled by no amount of  
16 tears.

17           The bible teaches us that we must forgive  
18 others or else God will not forgive us. But we are  
19 only human, and forgiving the man responsible for  
20 Amy's death will take time.

21           THE COURT: Thank you.

22           MR. FINK: Julie Brown.

23           THE COURT: Again, take your time and go  
24 ahead whenever you want.

25           VICTIM: Thank you.

1           Your Honor, my name is Julie Brown, and I  
2 am Amy Allwine's sister. Thank you for letting me  
3 speak with you today about her.

4           It was almost 18 months ago that we were  
5 sitting on the deck underneath the stars of a warm  
6 August evening. Her son was in bed, and we were  
7 able to talk. These past weeks we had shared a  
8 terrifying secret. One that so many now know. That  
9 someone was trying to kill us.

10           That evening her eyes were not filled with  
11 terror but tears. She talked about having the  
12 conversation with the FBI and the police as they  
13 explained why they thought the threat against her  
14 life was to be taken seriously. Her voice quivered  
15 as she shared how upsetting it was to know that  
16 somehow something she had done had enraged someone  
17 so much against her that parents, her son, her  
18 brother, my life, people she deeply loved, were now  
19 also in jeopardy.

20           We talked about how horrible it was to  
21 know someone hated her, and having no clue who it  
22 was, or what she could have done to warrant wanting  
23 her dead. That these anonymous threats left her  
24 unable to sincerely apologize as she readily would  
25 have done. You may only imagine how she must have

1 felt living in fear every waking moment of her last  
2 months. That evening, I listened to her trembling  
3 voice and gazed into her frightened eyes.

4 As we tried to think of who it was. She  
5 shared that it might be someone related to the dog  
6 business. She talked about having to go to class to  
7 put on a brave face, not knowing if the person might  
8 be there. She couldn't let on that the authorities  
9 were working hard to figure this out. She talked  
10 about how hard it was to give them names knowing  
11 that it would bring suspicion against some of her  
12 innocent friends. That by doing so, might increase  
13 the threat against us all.

14 She would be relieved to know that none of  
15 them were to blame. And at the same time, deeply  
16 grieved that any of them were even considered for a  
17 moment to be anything but true friends. To see  
18 their support of her family since she was been gone  
19 would have made her smile through tears of relief.

20 That evening, we talked about our parents'  
21 reaction when they found out that our lives had been  
22 threatened. That our father just kept quietly  
23 shaking his head no, because it was too much to be  
24 believed. She cracked a smile when I told her that  
25 dad's response about all this was that the violence

1 they plan fall upon their own head.

2           Your Honor, when we were little people  
3 mistook us for twins. When I was in college, she  
4 sent me a note every week so I wouldn't get  
5 homesick. That August, I started doing the same.  
6 Sending a scripture to encourage her each week.  
7 They were found beside her when she died, and I  
8 still have them.

9           It's hard to describe walking through the  
10 valley of the shadow of death and still finding  
11 things to be thankful for. But these were things  
12 that Amy told me she was grateful for before she was  
13 murdered. For the police and investigators who have  
14 been nothing but professional, respectful, and  
15 sincere in getting justice for Amy. For the dog  
16 community that she had built her business around,  
17 full of people of sterling character and loyalty.  
18 For the ability to finally talk about it with her  
19 family, and not solely bear the terrifying truth  
20 that every day was spent not knowing if a trip to  
21 the grocery store might mean being killed and  
22 leaving her son without a mother. For her faith  
23 that calmed the panic attacks that came from living  
24 under a death sentence.

25           A sense of guilt comes with life in prison

1 without parole. But Your Honor, we, her family,  
2 have already been serving that for the past 446  
3 days. For the reminders of what happened never  
4 stop. That each Friday as we welcome the Sabbath  
5 with family dinner, Amy is not there. At each week  
6 at church, my parents are reminded that their  
7 daughter Amy is not there. That each night, her son  
8 doesn't have his mom, Amy, to gently stroke his back  
9 as he falls asleep. That her dogs still sniff the  
10 hands of those they see hoping to recognize the  
11 scent of their Amy. That each year the camp she  
12 loved to serve at, is missing Amy's silly songs and  
13 laugh. That each dog class in Washington County no  
14 longer has its strongest champion. The summer days  
15 at the family cabin no longer include doing jigsaw  
16 puzzles and crafts.

17 When my dad called to tell me that Amy was  
18 dead, I felt there must be some mistake. We had  
19 prayed each day that God would protect her and we  
20 moved ahead with our lives assuming his promises of  
21 protection would keep her with us. That he did not  
22 shaken that faith. But we are still unmoved. For  
23 even in all of this, we can see his hand. That  
24 faith comforts me knowing that I will one day be  
25 reunited with Amy. That good with triumph over

1 evil. That life will triumph over death.

2 I remember the first night after she died,  
3 we finished eating and I looked to the kitchen  
4 realizing that she was never going to come around  
5 the corner again with one of her special deserts.  
6 We wondered if whoever killed Amy was now going to  
7 kill us. For the fear we had shared with her didn't  
8 end when she died. There was the pain of loss so  
9 real that my chest constantly ached. The day we  
10 returned to the house and I stood over the carpet  
11 stained with her blood, there was the realization  
12 that the dull persistent ache was going to be a  
13 permanent part of my life.

14 I remember returning to Pennsylvania  
15 having to remind myself not to call her. I still  
16 replay the voice mail she left me just to hear her  
17 voice.

18 Losing Amy has hurt my family. We were a  
19 normal church going family that never sought any  
20 attention. Enjoying quiet and privacy to focus on  
21 our family, our faith, our community with the simple  
22 desire to make lives better for others. Losing Amy  
23 means we cannot escape the media. Our family has  
24 had our privacy completely taken. Regardless of how  
25 much it breaks our heart, or adds to the hurt of



1 losing her, the public discussion means reminders  
2 are forever being available to digitally haunt us.

3 As Amy's life has been cut short, not by  
4 some disease or poorly timed accident, but by the  
5 calculated intentions of someone we thought we all  
6 knew. Someone who had promised to love her. Whose  
7 reaction to her terrified last months was to further  
8 plot her murder, and heap upon her unimaginable  
9 pain. Horrific messages encouraging her to kill  
10 herself.

11 Because of this, my family has not only  
12 lost Amy, but someone I considered a brother. Trips  
13 that we took as an entire family are now missing  
14 more than just Amy. We feel for Steve's parents and  
15 siblings who have done nothing wrong. And our  
16 family extends our prayers to the Allwine family,  
17 for we have all suffered a terrible loss in this  
18 tragedy.

19 As we sat on the deck, Amy shared that  
20 what was truly the worst part was knowing someone  
21 thought this world would be better without her. I  
22 told her then, and I know even more now, that it  
23 isn't. Because this world is without someone who  
24 saved the life of a young girl. Who moved away from  
25 a path of suicide because Amy's dog classes gave her

1 a reason to show up each week. Someone who helped a  
2 quadriplegic write a book. Setting up his computer  
3 so he could type each page one letter at a time.  
4 Someone who helped a young lady with physical  
5 disability to live more independently because of  
6 doing agility with her dog in Amy's class. Someone  
7 who touched the lives of hundreds of teens at camp  
8 through our church. Someone who was always helping  
9 others without seeking attention. Someone who sang  
10 in her church. I miss harmonizing with her on  
11 hymns. Someone who loved her son, and worked daily  
12 to help him thrive.

13 Amy will never see her son learn to drive,  
14 graduate from school, or fall in love. She will  
15 never have a mother/son dance or be a grandmother.

16 When people ask how we are doing, I still  
17 haven't learned what to say. For what is there to  
18 answer when such a precious, gentle person is  
19 suddenly and cruelly taken away.

20 Your Honor, this morning her son Joseph  
21 wanted me to tell you, my mom was a good mom. I  
22 will always remember her and love her. She was a  
23 good dog teacher.

24 And so we are beyond heartbroken. Grief  
25 is exhausting. It comes not just from losing Amy,

1 but watching my mom approach Amy's casket and place  
2 her hand gently on the lid as it's lowered in the  
3 ground. One last moment with her little girl. Or  
4 watching my dad bravely testify in these  
5 proceedings. If you knew how much he feared public  
6 speaking, you would understand how much courage it  
7 took for him to help his baby girl this one last  
8 time.

9 I end, Your Honor, where I started.  
10 Thanking you for giving me this time to share what  
11 Amy meant to me. She was truly one of the special  
12 ones. Going through life, touching everyone,  
13 leaving no person worse off, but bolstered by her  
14 beaming smile. We have lost so much. But with  
15 God's grace all is not lost.

16 Thank you for listening, sir.

17 THE COURT: Thank you. I also have been  
18 given something written by Sheila Walker who has  
19 asked me to read it.

20 Dear Judge Ekstrum. I am writing in  
21 reference to Stephen Allwine. My name is Sheila  
22 Walker. I am a teacher, an avid dog lover. I met  
23 Amy Allwine about four or five years ago. I came to  
24 her because I was tired of trainers telling me I  
25 needed to be physically aggressive with my dog in

1 order to make them obey. Someone referred me to Amy  
2 stating that she was great with all dogs and would  
3 never encourage physical aggressiveness.

4 Amy taught a Nosework class on Sunday  
5 nights. I was there that Sunday when Amy was  
6 killed. I was interviewed by police officers, and  
7 spent many days and nights wondering what I had  
8 missed about that day, or about how Amy was acting.  
9 Things that I should have been aware of. It has  
10 been a very long process to realize there was  
11 nothing that I could have done for her, as I was not  
12 aware of all that had occurred up to this point.

13 Amy was an incredible person. She would  
14 never speak poorly of anyone, and she always had a  
15 smile on her face. She knew how to unite people and  
16 how to train dogs. I had trained with her for years  
17 on Sunday nights, and met a core group of people.  
18 With Amy as our leader, we became a dog training  
19 family.

20 I knew no matter how bad my week was, I  
21 could go and have fun with my dog and with Amy. The  
22 night that Amy was killed was the night this was  
23 taken away from me. The core group of people no  
24 longer train together, and I no longer have a place  
25 to go on Sunday nights where I could be me and my

1 dog could be who she was, an active dog who loved to  
2 play. Amy knew that about her and made sure she was  
3 always set up to learn. She was an incredible  
4 teacher.

5 From my perspective, this world can be a  
6 crazy place. People are divided, judged, and angry.  
7 Amy was a beautiful person that definitely made this  
8 world a much better place to live. She was  
9 everything that would make the world great. She was  
10 accepting, kind, loving, and had an incredible  
11 ability to have empathy and never, ever judging.

12 I never knew anything about Amy's religion  
13 because she never talked about it. She did,  
14 however, live a short life modeling for all of us,  
15 what we as people on the planet can do for each  
16 other. We have lost an incredible person who made  
17 the world a much better place. She will be  
18 irreplaceable. There will always be a hole in my  
19 heart.

20 Every time I see a full moon, which was  
21 occurring the day she was killed, I will always shed  
22 tear for a woman who made the world a better place  
23 to be.

24 Mr. Fink.

25 MR. FINK: Thank you. First of all, Your

1 Honor, the six women and the six men of the jury in  
2 this case need to be comforted with the fact that  
3 they did the right thing. That's what we strive to  
4 accomplish in the criminal justice system, doing the  
5 right thing to the right people at the right time.

6 The right thing to do is to prosecute this  
7 defendant for the murder of his wife, Amy Allwine.  
8 The right thing to do was to indict and try him for  
9 First Degree Murder.

10 Your Honor, I have been doing this for a  
11 long time, but it's rare to see a defendant like  
12 this before the court. The devastation and pain  
13 that he has caused Amy Allwine, her family, and her  
14 friends is incomprehensible.

15 The obsessiveness of the defendant's month  
16 after month after month quest to find a way to  
17 murder his wife is incomprehensible. The cold,  
18 calculated, uncaring execution of Amy Allwine is  
19 incomprehensible.

20 Our system in Minnesota calls for a  
21 penalty of life imprisonment without the possibility  
22 of parole for First Degree Premeditated Murder.  
23 It's the right thing that this defendant spend the  
24 rest of his life in prison.

25 Thank you.

1 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. DeVore, is  
2 there anything you would like to tell this court  
3 this morning?

4 MR. DEVORE: Just briefly, Your Honor.  
5 Your Honor, there is not much I can do to change the  
6 outcome of what you are going to do today.

7 I do want to acknowledge that there is  
8 pain on both sides of the courtroom. There is pain  
9 and suffering that is being endured by the Allwine  
10 family as well. I just want to acknowledge that  
11 Steve's parents Gail and Karen have been here  
12 through the entire thing, as well as his sister. I  
13 know his brother has been involved as well. They  
14 are suffering greatly in this, and I just wanted to  
15 acknowledge their suffering as well, Your Honor.

16 I am not going to argue what the sentence  
17 would be. It's a statutory penalty. So with that,  
18 Your Honor, I will open the floor to Mr. Allwine if  
19 he wants to say a few words to the court.

20 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Allwine, you  
21 have the right to speak before the sentence is  
22 imposed. Is there anything you would like to say?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, please.

24 THE COURT: Go ahead.

25 THE DEFENDANT: This may take me a while,

1 but I have lots of Kleenex, so I will work my way  
2 through it.

3 Amy was my wife for 20 years. I loved her  
4 so much. The grief of losing her is tremendous.  
5 But one thing I learned many years ago was that I  
6 never went to sleep without giving her a kiss and  
7 telling her I loved her. And I never got up in the  
8 morning without giving her a hug and a kiss and  
9 telling her how much I loved her. So I know that  
10 even though she is gone, she is gone knowing that I  
11 loved her. I know there are people in this  
12 courtroom that don't believe that. But that's the  
13 truth.

14 She was my best friend for 24 years. My  
15 dance partner. She was the one at college that  
16 whenever I needed to practice, she would come over  
17 and dance with me. We spent hours together. The  
18 last ten years of my life, I worked from home. We  
19 were together 7 by 24.

20 Many people were interviewed through the  
21 process of this. Not a single one of them talked  
22 badly about our relationship. My son was  
23 interviewed. He gave our relationship, as he called  
24 it, a million thumbs up. We never argued. We  
25 didn't need to. There weren't disagreements between



1 us.

2 It hurts so much that night and afterwards  
3 having people say that I didn't respond right on the  
4 911. I didn't respond right on the interviews.  
5 There was so much shock and grief as I saw her the  
6 first time with her eyes wide open and no life  
7 behind those eyes. But all of my thoughts went to  
8 the protection of my son, who was back in the bath  
9 bathroom wondering what was going on. So I hurried  
10 back to him.

11 As we saw through the evidence, those  
12 footprints are footprints that were made on that 911  
13 call. Everywhere I said we went, they went. Right  
14 out the back door, right where I said they went.  
15 They weren't going to the laundry room. They  
16 weren't going to clean up. That footprint in the  
17 pool of blood is not a footprint of somebody leaving  
18 the room forward and parallel to the wall. It's  
19 perpendicular to the wall where I went to check on  
20 Amy at the direction of 911. Back out of the room  
21 with my foot perpendicular to the wall, turning to  
22 go back to my son.

23 For months I have seen evidence come  
24 across. People twisting my words, twisting what the  
25 evidence says. I find it strange that people see

1 three DNA profiles on a gun where two adults were in  
2 the house and they don't question it.

3 I find it strange that the email, or the  
4 code that was on that back up on my computer, that  
5 it was supposedly made in a note in March. It was  
6 testified by Mr. Lanterman that backup is made every  
7 time a phone is plugged into the computer. And yet,  
8 there is no backup in April, May, June, or July.  
9 Where are all of those? He looked at my phone.  
10 Doesn't exist on my phone. To hear him talk to the  
11 jury when my counsel says, is there any connection  
12 between that code and Mr. Allwine? And he lies to  
13 the jury saying that is my Bitcoin Wallet address,  
14 when it clearly says in the email that dogdayGod was  
15 sending money or codes to that -- sorry Bitcoins to  
16 that code so it was a receiving code not a sending  
17 code.

18 Prosecution asked Homeland Security to  
19 look and see where those codes came from and they  
20 traced them back. They didn't trace back to me.  
21 They didn't trace back to my wallet. There were  
22 other codes given in those communications. Homeland  
23 Security traced those back as well. They didn't  
24 trace back to my wallet either.

25 It's painful to see things brought up. I

1 didn't testify in court, and maybe I should have to  
2 explain certain things. That decision has come and  
3 gone. I understand the prosecution has a job to do,  
4 and their job is to bring bad people to justice.  
5 It's a hard job. It has to be done, and I  
6 appreciate the fact that they are here to do it,  
7 because it makes the world safer for all of us  
8 around it.

9 But occasionally, they have to argue that  
10 an innocent man is guilty. In this particular case,  
11 they argued better than my counsel and they won.

12 I didn't hurt Amy. I view mom and dad and  
13 Steve and Julie as brothers and sisters, not as  
14 inlaws. People complain about their mother-in-law  
15 coming over to their house, I never did. They came  
16 over. We were together two to three times a week,  
17 and I loved it. They were my extended family here  
18 in Minnesota.

19 24 years ago, I gave my life to God. I  
20 told him to use me however he wanted to use me. I  
21 find it ironic that the prosecution said I wanted to  
22 be an elder more than be a husband. I never asked  
23 for that position. That's not something that we  
24 apply for. It's not something we ask for. It's  
25 something that is given to us. If I had to give it

1 up to stay with Amy, I would do it in a heartbeat.

2 Here in the jail, I walk every day with  
3 drug addicts, drug dealers, child molesters,  
4 kidnappers. I spend hours with them on a daily  
5 basis. There are three people, in particular, that  
6 I can think of that were either agnostic or atheist  
7 coming into jail. Now, they attend bible study  
8 constantly three times a week. One of them has read  
9 through the bible three times front to back, and  
10 wants to be a minister when he leaves.

11 I never asked for anything other than to  
12 do work for God. And even in here, a place where I  
13 never asked to be, that's happening. So even though  
14 I am pained on a daily basis with the loss of my  
15 wife, and I cry at the stupidest things now. You  
16 know, there was a commercial that came on when  
17 Aladdin came to town, that was the last play we went  
18 to see on our 20th anniversary in New York. Just  
19 seeing the ad on TV brings me to tears, because like  
20 the rest of my family, the only image that I have in  
21 my mind was one of a smiling beautiful wife.

22 Anytime something happens in the jail that  
23 is interesting, the first thought that pops into my  
24 mind is, I've got to call Amy and tell her. Because  
25 any time I was on vacation, or on work trips and

1 something happened, that's the first thing I would  
2 do is call Amy.

3 I was never one that remembered dreams.  
4 Amy was. She would wake up. She would remember  
5 vividly dreams that she would have. Talk about  
6 them. But now if I dream about Amy, it's drilled  
7 into my mind. I thank God for that because it's  
8 more memories and thoughts and visions that I have  
9 of her.

10 THE COURT: Anything else.

11 THE DEFENDANT: I am hurt by all of this,  
12 and I know you have a job to do. You know, there is  
13 no animosity in my heart towards you, towards  
14 prosecution, towards the jury at all. I will take  
15 my bible with me to St. Cloud, and I will preach  
16 there, and whatever God's will is will happen.

17 Thank you, sir.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Allwine, my perceptions  
19 aren't going to alter the sentence in this case.  
20 But my perception is that you're an incredible  
21 actor. That you can turn tears on and off. That  
22 you are a hypocrite and that you are cold.

23 The jury has spoken in this case and now  
24 others have spoken this morning. It is clear to  
25 this court that you have taken incredibly cold and

1    incredibly calculating steps all designed to murder  
2    your wife, Amy Allwine. Which you ultimately  
3    accomplished by holding a gun to her head on  
4    November 13th, 2016 and pulling the trigger.

5                   Therefore, in accordance with the laws of  
6    the State of Minnesota, it is the sentence of the  
7    law and the judgment of this court that you be  
8    committed to the Commissioner of Corrections of the  
9    State of Minnesota for the rest of your natural life  
10   with no possibility of parole.

11                   We are finished.

12   (Proceedings concluded.)

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1 STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
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2 COUNTY OF WASHINGTON )

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, DEBORAH L. FOSTER, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing transcript, consisting of the preceding pages, is a correct transcript of my stenographic notes and is a full, true, and complete transcript of the proceedings to the best of my ability.

Dated: August 4, 2018

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEBORAH L. FOSTER  
Official Reporter  
Washington County District Court  
(651) 430-6354