

Tracy Press

Outbursts pepper hearing for accused killers

by Jennifer Wadsworth

Aug 11, 2009



Robert Plunkett-Morgan, left, and Jorge Morgan at their first arraignment

Domestic partners Robert Plunkett-Morgan, 39, and Jorge Morgan, 24, appeared in court in a short but volatile hearing today on charges that they stabbed to death a 58-year-old Tracy woman.

The two stand accused of murder with special circumstances of burglary, murder by lying in wait, personal use of a non-firearm and charges for parole violations. The two men could face the death penalty, a prosecutor said.

The suspects smirked at the family of the slain Cynthia Ramos and shook their heads as the judge read the charges against them..

The Tracy couple entered no pleas today. San Joaquin County Superior Court Judge Franklin Stephenson assigned them public defenders because the men can't afford to hire attorneys. Neither of the suspects held down a job before their arrest and neither of them have any assets, they told the judge.



The two suspects shook their heads when charges were read in court.



The two will be back in court Aug. 20.

About 30 family members and friends of Ramos showed up to court today for the hearing, many of them wearing T-shirts emblazoned with a photo of the victim, who was found dead by her roommate in her Tracy trailer home Thursday afternoon.

Ramos' eldest daughter, Christina Barnes, held up a framed photo of her slain mother during today's proceeding.

When the suspects walked into the courtroom — clad in orange jail clothes, their hands and ankles shackled — some grandchildren and children of Ramos turned their heads away. Some clenched their fists, and others tearfully comforted each other.

Emotions ran high at the brief proceeding, which ended when a couple of Ramos' six children shouted expletives at Morgan and Plunkett-Morgan. The family attorney rushed them out to the hallway to calm them.

Plunkett-Morgan and Morgan, who were arrested hours after Ramos was killed, have a history of theft.

The two — who filed for domestic partnership in San Joaquin County in November — were both released from Deuel Vocational Institution last fall, Morgan-Plunkett in September and Morgan on Nov. 1. Morgan was sentenced to 16 months in 2008 for possession of stolen property, and his partner was sentenced a couple years earlier to four years in state prison for stealing a car. Both have prior serious felony convictions.

Morgan and his older partner were ordered back in court for further arraignment at 9 a.m. on Aug. 20 in Department 22 under Judge Terrence Van Oss.

The victim's family has yet to arrange memorial services for Ramos, but has held three candlelight vigils since Saturday night. Well over 100 people attended each one, including dozens of the woman's family members.

Ramos is survived by two daughters, four sons and 11 grandchildren. She was about to become a great-grandmother. Her death is the second murder in Tracy this year. Sandra Cantu, 8, was killed in late March.

•Contact Tracy Press reporter Jennifer Wadsworth at 830-4225 or jwadsworth@tracypress.com.

post a comment

comments (24)

« [monica2526](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 10:51 PM »

CINDY..ON DAVIS ST ,YES THAT WAS THE HOUSE TO GO WHEN U NEED TO TALK ,DRINK,,LOL N SOO ON ..SHE was a friend ,mother n love to laugh.she will be miss ,my preyers go out the the family .. love always monica my hands are waveing up n down ,, she knows what i mean .. love u cindy...

« [monsterdad3k](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 10:33 PM »

We need to find a better way to deal with this scum

Slowly flatten them with a road roller from the feet up?

« [wm.sutton@sbcglobal.net](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 08:35 PM »

First of all, my condolences go out to Cynthia Ramos' family. I've lived in Green Oaks Mobile Home park for 31 years and have never experienced a terrible tragedy such as this. I know the pain you are suffering. Years ago in Oakland my own niece was brutally stabbed to death 17 times in the chest and upper body. Her killer or killers were never brought to justice. If it's any consolation, at least these two low-life individuals that did this dastardly act will be brought to justice and I hope severely punished for what they did. My wife's and my prayers go out to your family.

« [ConcernedNeighbor](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 05:10 PM »

Yes, till death do them part!!!

Too bad their "taunting" was not caught on pix.

"The suspects smirked at the family of the slain Cynthia Ramos and shook their heads as the judge read the charges against them."

Would they be smirking if the "punishment" extends to their families?? After all, eye for eye? Lucky for them, that

changed. Better realize that, too!!

Incensed that the family was robbed of their Mom, Grandmother, and the role of "Great Grandma" snatched away from her and her unborn great grandchild.... SAD.

My heart and prayer for comfort and strength goes the family during their painful times.

« [Tinfoil](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 03:12 PM »

Aw,they're just a couple of lovebirds. They're ugly,psycho killers but lovebirds nonetheless. Half of San Francisco probably want to marry them.

« [jjp009](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 02:50 PM »

The one with hair looks like a mentally deranged Dennis Miller.

« [jjp009](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 02:49 PM »

Look at them. They're both so stupid they don't even realize they're going to stand trial for murder. It's a joke to them. Well, if they have no regard for the human life they took (or who knows how many others they weren't caught for yet), then they should have no problem with being put to death themselves.

« [shelly13](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 11:52 AM »

A 3 for 1 deal, I like it!

« [ConcernedNeighbor](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 10:58 AM »

They just have no right to take a life! No right at all! Hated the idea we have to share the earth with them! Despicable act from soulless people.

« [jjp009](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 10:08 AM »

Man, I've seen better heads on lettuce. These have to be two of the ugliest, hate-filled bags of feces I've ever set eyes on. I'm glad the death penalty is an option here...it definitely should be exercised along with Melissa Huckaby. Maybe they could have a 3-for-1 event and wipe them all of the face of the Earth at the same time.

« [tracyboyy](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 09:53 AM »

I say we tie both of these evil creeps to a pole and have a public stoning

« [Justhanginout](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 09:49 AM »

Don't waste our time and money. Get rid of them, and do it right in front of the family. Or, better yet, let the family do it!!!

« [tweetyb](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 09:36 AM »

« [tweetyb](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 09:11 AM »

Folks, you are truly looking at EVIL in these two. There would be nowhere more fitting than HELL for these two MONSTERS because they deserve nothing LESS and so, so, so much more than what they did to a beautiful woman with a heart of gold and for the pain that they have caused on her beautiful family. Cindy, May YOU REST IN PEACE now and know that your FAMILY WILL NOT REST until justice is served and these two ANIMALS pay for taking you from us so violently and much too soon. I will truly miss answering my phone and hearing your voice asking me "how's my favorite daughter in law" . We love you and EXPECT nothing less from you than to continue to take care and watch over your family until we all meet again.

« [djdemetre](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 08:57 AM »

just wanted to tell you guys how sorry i am for your loss.we all grew up together as brothers and sisters and cindy was the one mom that would never turn us away.you could talk to her about anything and the house on Davis st seemed like a safe haven for us teens instead of getting into trouble with the law.ive know you guys my whole life and my heart aches for you now-be strong and be there for each other.love always.Devon

« [sb2482](#) wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 08:46 AM »

If they are smirking and smiling and showing no remorse for killing an innocent human being they deserve the death penalty. They aren't human themselves. It should be instant death penalty too not 20 years of appeals while they enjoy each other in the prison yard at taxpayers expense. Just take them into the next room in the court and get it over with. Put them all out of our misery.

« **Tinfoil** wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 08:04 AM »

to vicster0103: Oh yes you would care if you had to share a cellblock with these guys.

Yes "tinfoil" it means what you think it does! But why is that so important to the press that they have to bring it to the public's attention. Nobody cares about their sexual preference, at least I don't!

« **itsnotright** wrote on Wednesday, Aug 12 at 04:55 AM »

I'm sorry, but life in prison for these two would be like giving them a free pass to club fed with full benefits.

These disgusting animals deserve nothing less than the death penalty and this poor family should be there to watch when it happens. Better yet, the police ought to release them to Cindy's family and let them decide their fate.

Anyone who knew Cindy knew that her love was the true definition of unconditional. This great lady is going to missed by so many people. It's hard to imagine how any of us will ever be able to accept what has happened, but if we hold on real hard to our memories such as those of Thanksgiving meals at Cindy's....rest assured, you will have something to laugh about!

May our dear Cindy rest in eternal peace and may the family somehow find the strength to get through this. Trust in God as the vengence truly is His and not ours. Justice will be served.

« **shelly13** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 10:29 PM »

I'm so glad our taxes went up when many of us have lost our jobs. I'm so glad we will be paying for their 3 meals a day, when it is hard for me to scrape and buy groceries.

We need to find a better way to deal with this scum.

I'm so sorry about your friend!

« **vicster0103** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 10:18 PM »

Yes "tinfoil" it means what you think it does! But why is that so important to the press that they have to bring it to the public's attention. Nobody cares about their sexual preference, at least I don't! The bottom line is that these pieces of scum of the earth murdered my dear friend (and the friend of 100's of others), the dear mother of 6 children and 11 grandchildren who loved her dearly and 1 great grandchild that she will never get the chance to love or see. And to have the attitudes and the smirks on their faces in court towards the family just makes my skin crawl! This is not "TRAFFIC COURT" fools! This is a "MURDER TRIAL"! May you burn in hell for what you've done as this family will be your biggest nightmare. I was going to say "bubba" would be your biggest nightmare, but ooppsss, you're used to that! It's a shame that we taxpayers will have to foot the bill for a murder that you committed!

« **really!!!** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 07:23 PM »

I think i have the same idea as Tinfoil. I bet they do like prison

RIP Cynthia Ramos

« **shelly13** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 06:17 PM »

My thoughts and prayers go out to her family and I hope these guys never get out again.

« **shelly13** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 06:15 PM »

They must like prison then...???

« **Tinfoil** wrote on Tuesday, Aug 11 at 04:13 PM »

Does this mean what I think it does?

The two — who filed for domestic partnership in San Joaquin County in November — were both released from Deuel Vocational Institution last fall,

Read more: [Tracy Press - Outbursts pepper hearing for accused killers](#)