

Brett W. Ligon District Attorney 9th Judicial District 207 W. Phillips Conroe, Texas 77301

## **PRESS RELEASE: 11/6/2023**

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## Domestic Violence Abuser Receives Life for Murder of Woman

Name:	Anthony Dwane Moore
Age:	50
Court:	221st District Court, Judge Lisa Michalk presiding
<b>Charges:</b>	Murder, 1st Degree Felony
Plea:	Not Guilty
Verdict:	By jury: Guilty on 10/31/2023
Sentence:	By jury: Life on 11/01/2023

Assistant District Attorney Ryan Fuller: "Laura Martelli was a mother, daughter, and a friend. Anthony Moore forever took her from her precious daughter, loving mother, faithful friends, and the rest of us. For this, Moore's life sentence is both just and necessary." On Wednesday, November 1, 2023, a jury sentenced Anthony Moore, 50, to life in prison for the murder of his ex-girlfriend, Laura Martelli. Moore will be required to serve at least thirty years of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

## **District Attorney Brett Ligon:**

"The fact that family violence is persistent and widespread does not mean it should be excused or overlooked. Which is why the brutality of the type seen here must be spotlighted and prevented whenever possible. And where prevention is not possible, savage behavior must be met with the severest of legal consequences. I am grateful our jurors understand this and continue to render justice for victims whenever called upon." On Monday, October 30, 2023, Assistant District Attorney Ryan Fuller selected a jury, followed by opening statements by his co-counsel, Assistant District Attorney Tamara Tyler. ADA Tyler recounted for the jury the events of October 18, 2021, when Conroe Police officers were dispatched to the Walden Road Express Market, where Laura Martelli had been struck by a vehicle. On scene, officers quickly learned that Moore, Ms. Martelli's ex-boyfriend, had followed her to the location shortly after she had dropped off her then 9-year-old daughter at school. After confronting Ms. Martelli, Moore strangled her just outside of her vehicle, then threw her to the ground. Moore then got into Martelli's SUV and ran over Ms. Martelli. Ms. Martelli was able to recount these events before she lost consciousness. Ms. Martelli died in the emergency room.

At trial, jurors heard from Ms. Martelli's close friends, who shared that Martelli had broken up with Moore the day before her murder due in significant part to continuous acts of family violence, some of which took place in front of Ms. Martelli's daughter. Moore's friends and family recounted how Moore admitted to the murder, stating that he "broke." Prosecutors presented video from the inside of Moore and Ms. Martelli's home, which depicted Moore hitting, pushing, and throwing Ms. Martelli down. The jury deliberated on guilt for approximately twenty minutes before convicting Moore.

During the punishment phase, prosecutors presented evidence of Moore's previous criminal convictions, including a prior federal felony conviction. After a brief deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of life in prison.

