

Man Pleads Guilty to Murder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A man from Groveport, Ohio, pled guilty and was sentenced today for murdering a woman at Caesar's Creek State Park last fall.

Richard Snyder, 43, pled guilty to murder and a gun specification and was sentenced to serve fifteen years to life in prison, plus three years for the firearm specification, by Judge Robert Peeler in the Warren County Court of Common Pleas. Snyder will not be eligible for parole until he has served eighteen years in prison.

During the evening of November 23, 2011, Snyder and the victim, Nicole Berry, left their home near Orient intending to go to a casino in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. They exited I-71 at S.R. 73 and went to a remote area in Caesar's Creek State Park, where Snyder shot and killed Berry, apparently after an argument. Snyder left the body at the park, secured a rake and shovel, and returned to the park in an attempt to bury the body in the woods near an abandoned road. Berry's body was found in a shallow grave by hunters on Thanksgiving Day, and the Warren County Coroner's Office identified the victim later that day.

Family members told police that Berry was last known to be with Snyder. Authorities traced Snyder to a casino in Indiana, and eventually located him at a VA hospital near St. Louis, Missouri, on the Monday after Thanksgiving.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys John Arnold and Christopher Delnicki and Warren County Sheriff's Detective Jerry Niffenegger are commended for their work in investigating and prosecuting this case. Numerous law enforcement agencies assisted, including other deputies from the Warren County Sheriff's Office, the United States Marshal's Service, the Indiana Gaming Commission, and police agencies from Franklin County, Pickaway County, Lawrenceburg, and St. Louis.



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