



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

November 7, 2025

Warden David Allen
Florida State Prison
7819 N.W. 228th Street
Raiford, Florida 32036-1000

Re: Execution Date for Mark Allen Gerald, DC# 729185

Dear Warden Allen:

Enclosed is the death warrant that I signed to carry out the sentence for Mark Allen Gerald, as well as certified copies of his judgment and sentence. I have designated the week beginning at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, through 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, for the execution. I have been advised that you have set the date and time of execution for Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m.

This letter is incorporated into and made a part of the death warrant identified above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Enclosures

2025 NOV -7 PM 3:12
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Warden David Allen

November 7, 2025

Page 2

cc:

Honorable Carlos G. Muñiz
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Florida
500 S. Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Honorable Christopher N. Patterson
Chief Judge, 14th Judicial Circuit
300 E. 4th Street
Panama City, Florida 32401

Secretary Ricky Dixon
Department of Corrections
501 S. Calhoun Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2500

Marilyn Muir
Associate Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
The Capitol, FL-01
Tallahassee, Florida 32300-0001

Eric Pinkard
Capital Collateral Regional Counsel
12973 N. Telecom Parkway
Temple Terrace, Florida 33637

Dawn Brandi Macready
CCRC-North
1004 DeSoto Park Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Office of Executive Clemency
4070 Esplanade Way
Building C, Rm. 229
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2450

Mark Allen Geraldts, DC# 729185
Union Correctional Institution
7819 N.W. 228th Street
Raiford, Florida 32083



STATE OF FLORIDA

JAMES UTHMEIER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 7, 2025

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

RE: Mark Allen Geraldts

Dear Governor DeSantis:

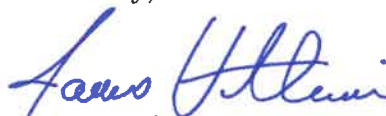
On February 1, 1989, Mark Allen Geraldts beat and stabbed Tressa Lynn Pettibone to death in Bay County, Florida. When eight-year-old Bart Pettibone arrived home from school that day, he found his mother on the kitchen floor. There were two stab wounds on the right side of Ms. Pettibone's neck, and one fatal stab wound on the left side. The wounds were consistent with a knife found in the kitchen sink. The medical examiner found numerous bruises and abrasions on Ms. Pettibone's head, face, chest, and abdomen that were caused by some form of blunt trauma. The medical examiner also determined that the Ms. Pettibone's wrists had been bound with a plastic tie for at least twenty minutes prior to her death. On March 26, 1990, Geraldts was convicted of first-degree murder, armed robbery, burglary, and grand theft auto. He was sentenced to death for the murder of Tressa Lynn Pettibone.

The Florida Supreme Court affirmed Geraldts' convictions but remanded for a new penalty phase. *Geraldts v. State*, 601 So. 2d 1157 (Fla. 1990). On remand and following a unanimous jury recommendation, Geraldts was again sentenced to death for the murder of Ms. Pettibone. The Florida Supreme Court affirmed the death sentence, *Geraldts v. State*, 674 So. 2d 96 (Fla. 1996), and the United States Supreme Court denied his petition for writ of certiorari. *Geraldts v. Florida*, 117 U.S. 231 (1996).

In the decades that followed, Geraldts engaged in unsuccessful postconviction litigation in both state and federal court. *Geraldts v. State*, 111 So. 3d 778 (Fla. 2010) (affirming the denial of initial postconviction motion and denying habeas petition); *Geraldts v. Jones*, 2017 WL 944236 (Fla. March 10, 2017) (denial of habeas petition seeking relief under *Hurst v. Florida*, 136 U.S. 616 (2016)); *Geraldts v. State*, 237 So. 3d 923 (Fla. 2018) (affirming denial of successive postconviction motion); *cert denied, Geraldts v. Florida*, 586 U.S. 921 (2018); *Geraldts v. Secretary Fla. Dep't. Corr.*, 855 Fed. Appx. 576 (11th Cir. 2021) (affirming denial of initial federal habeas petition); *cert denied, Geraldts v. Dixon*, 142 S. Ct. 1422 (2022).

The record has been reviewed and there are no stays of execution issued by any court of competent jurisdiction in this cause. Based upon the above-referenced summary of litigation affirming the judgment and sentence of death imposed for first-degree murder, the record is legally sufficient to support the issuance of a death warrant.

Sincerely,



James Uthmeier
Attorney General

** OFFICIAL RECORDS **
BK 1427 PG 945

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR BAY COUNTY

APR 13 2 54 PM '93

FILE# 93-14682
BAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CASE NO. 89-495

MARK ALLEN GERALDS,

Defendant.

JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE

The defendant, Mark Allen Geraldts, being before this Court represented by Robert T. Adams, his attorney of record, and having been tried and found guilty of the crimes of:

- Count I First Degree Murder (capital felony)
- Count II Robbery Armed with a Deadly Weapon (1F)
- Count III Burglary of a Dwelling with a Weapon (1F)
- Count IV Grand Theft Auto - with a value more than \$20,000.00 (2F)

on the 7th day of February, 1990 by a jury of twelve of his peers and thereafter pursuant to remand by the Florida Supreme Court for a new penalty phase proceeding for the First Degree Murder charge a new jury of twelve of his peers rendered on March 26, 1993, an advisory sentence of death by a vote of 12 to 0 for the First Degree Murder conviction. No cause being shown why the defendant should not be adjudicated guilty, it is ordered that the defendant, Mark Allen Geraldts, is hereby adjudicated guilty of the above crime of First Degree Murder.



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BILL KINSAUL CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By *Debi Wef*
Deputy Clerk

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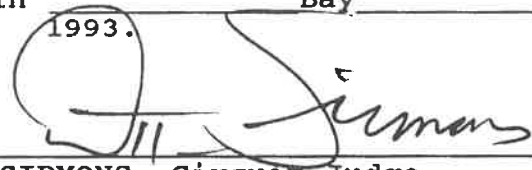
State of Florida v.

Case Number 89-495(C)

MARK ALLEN GERALDS,
Defendant










** OFFICIAL RECORDS **
BK 1427 PG 946

DONE AND ORDERED in open court in Bay _____ County,
Florida, this 13 day of April, 1993.



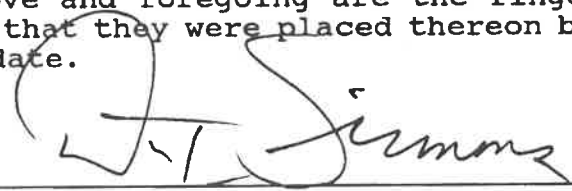
DON T. SIRMONS, Circuit Judge

FINGERPRINTS OF DEFENDANT

1. Right Thumb	2. Right Index	3. Right Middle	4. Right Ring	5. Right Little
				
6. Left Thumb	7. Left Index	8. Left Middle	9. Left Ring	10. Left Little
				

Fingerprints taken by: Name N.D. Williams 619 Title BAIT FF

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing are the fingerprints of the defendant, MARK ALLEN GERALDS, and that they were placed thereon by the defendant in my presence in open court this date.



DON T. SIRMONS, Circuit Judge



A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
BILL KINSAUL CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By Bill Kinsaul
Deputy Clerk

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SENTENCE

** OFFICIAL RECORDS **
BK 1427 PG 947

As to Count I, First Degree Murder, the defendant being personally before this Court accompanied by his attorney, Robert T. Adams, and having been adjudicated guilty herein and the Court having given the Defendant an opportunity to be heard and offer matters in mitigation of sentence and to show cause why he should not be sentenced by law, and no cause being shown, and the Court, having considered the aggravating and mitigating circumstances presented in this case, finding that the following aggravating circumstances exist.

1. The crime for which the defendant is to be sentenced was committed while he was engaged in the commission of, attempt to commit, flight after committing or attempting to commit the crime of robbery and/or burglary.

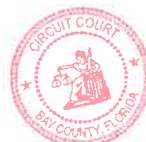
2. The crime for which the defendant is to be sentenced was especially heinous, atrocious or cruel. The circumstances of this killing indicate a consciousnessless and pitiless regard for the victim's life and was unnecessarily tortuous to the victim. The murder was accomplished while the defendant was committing a robbery and a burglary of the victim's home. Due to the swollen condition of her hands the evidence establishes that the victim was bound with plastic ties around her wrists for at least twenty minutes prior to her death. In order for these plastic ties to be placed around her wrists there would have to have been no struggling from the victim because of the nature of the ties themselves and the small holes in which the ends of the ties have



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By *Debra Welf*
Deputy Clerk

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to be placed through in order to tighten them. The victim was severely beaten prior to death as evidenced by the bruises and cuts on various parts of her face and chest area. There is evidence of 10 to 15 blunt force injuries to these areas of her body. These bruises indicated the blows were sufficient to knock her down and/or render her unconscious. Several blows to her face were consistent with a human fist as well as a foot. One of the blows to her chest appeared to be the result of a stomp by a foot with sufficient force to cause hemorrhage to the victim's right diaphragm. The victim struggled with the defendant prior to her death in at least three separate areas of the kitchen and dining area as evidenced by the blood patterns found at the crime scene. However this was not a large area of space where this struggle took place. The first area of attack indicates the victim was standing when struck. The second area indicated the victim was most likely kneeling. The third area indicates the victim laid in her own blood for at least several minutes before being dragged to the area where the victim's body was found. A towel was wrapped around her mouth and positioned and tied in such a manner to be used to choke the victim and control her movements. The towel was also used to drag the victim's body to another position. The victim was stabbed three separate times in the neck. The last stab wound was the fatal wound and was inflicted at least twenty minutes after the victim was bound with the ties, with such force as to go to the hilt of the knife severing the victim's windpipe and the large carotid artery. This was not an instantaneous or painless type of



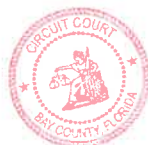
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OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By *Debi Waf*
Deputy Clerk

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death.

In addition to the severe beating and binding of the victim, the evidence establishes that after the fatal wound as inflicted, the victim lived long enough to take several breaths and, due to her windpipe being severed, she could not speak or shout for mercy or assistance while she drowned on her own blood being sucked into her lungs.

3. The capital felony for which the defendant is to be sentenced was a homicide and was committed in a cold, calculated and premeditated manner without any pretense of any moral or legal justification. In addition to the facts set forth in paragraph 2 above, the defendant encountered the victim and her children the week prior to the crime taking place and learned that the victim's husband would be out of town for several weeks, including the time when the robbery and burglary took place. The defendant further questioned the victim's son and received additional information concerning when the children left for school and who was or was not present in the home during the day. The defendant had worked around the victim's home in the past, when the home was being remodeled and thereby observed how the family lived. The defendant therefore knew the victim and the manner and lifestyle she led and what may or may not have been in her home as well as what schools her children attended. The victim also knew the defendant and would have been able to identify the defendant had she survived the severe beating inflicted upon her as described in paragraph 2 above. Additional evidence establishes that the victim normally



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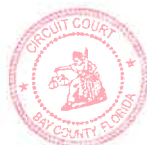
tended not to leave her residence unless she had groomed and dressed herself appropriately. Therefore the type of clothing worn by the victim at the time of death was inconsistent with her having left the house prior to her death. Furthermore, the time sequence as testified to by the victim's friend, establishes the victim was killed between 9:10 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and, coupled with the location of the victim's car found by the friend, and the distances involved between the car and house, is inconsistent with any theory that the victim had left her house prior to her death. The Court notes the defendant was found guilty of stealing the car. It is therefore consistent with the facts and evidence to infer that the defendant knew the victim was at her home because her car was there for him to see before he went into the home. Once he knew she was in the home, the defendant knew she could identify him if he went in and was seen by her. His actions in taking the ties into the home with him and his leaving no fingerprints in the home are consistent with finding that he knew the victim was in the home when he went in. Again, the Court notes the distance from where the victim's car was moved to the victim's house and where the defendant's car would have to have been located in relation to these areas. It is also consistent with his careful planning that the defendant would probably at least have driven by the victim's home or otherwise checked to see if there were any signs of someone being in the home prior to his going in. The friend of the victim did this around 10:50 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. when she drove by the victim's home and didn't see the victim's car. That was why she



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didn't stop and go in to check on the victim. Once he went in the home, the facts and circumstances of the crime do not support an alternative theory that he killed the victim because she surprised him, or he killed her in a sudden state of rage. Even if the defendant was surprised to see the victim in the home and he did not carry the ties with him, he would still have to beat the victim unconscious, go back outside to get the plastic ties, and then, after waiting 20 minutes, proceed to inflict the fatal stab wound. If the defendant was in a highly emotional state at the time of the killing of the victim, why would he then take the time to drive the victim's car to the school where the victim's youngest son attended? It is consistent to believe the defendant knew what school the son attended and the defendant knew the leaving of the victim's car at the school would attract the least attention should someone be looking for the victim. Furthermore, the waiting of 20 minutes between binding the victim and inflicting the fatal stab wound would, in light of the careful planning of the robbery, the knowing by the defendant that the victim knew the defendant, the defendant knowing the victim was in the home at the time he went into the home or having to go back outside to get the ties to bind her if she surprised him, the defendant's high IQ, his uncaring attitude, his manipulative behavior and his superior ability to think in the abstract, be inconsistent with killing her in "sudden" rage. The Court also finds the defendant testified that he did not kill the victim. Although this Court does not believe his testimony, as referred to later in this order, the Court does find



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By Debra W. [Signature]
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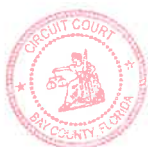
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the defendant did not testify he killed the victim in any sudden rage. Instead, he testified with no explanation as to what he did or why he did what he did. It is the minimum 20 minute period of time between the binding of the victim and the infliction of the fatal stab wound that convinces this Court beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant, under any set of circumstances, fully contemplated effecting the victim's death prior to actually killing her and his actions evidence the heightened premeditation and reflective calculation on his part in committing the murder to justify finding this aggravating circumstance.

The Court finds the following statutory mitigating circumstances were presented for the Court's consideration.

A. The age of the defendant at the time of the crime. The defendant is currently 26 years of age and was 22 years of age at the time of the offense. The Court finds this circumstance to exist but, in light of the aggravating circumstances, gives this circumstance very little weight.

B. The capacity of the defendant to appreciate the criminality of his conduct or to conform his conduct to the requirements of the law was substantially impaired. The testimony of Mr. Beller did not indicate that the defendant's capacity to appreciate the criminality of his conduct to the requirements of the law was substantially impaired. (emphasis supplied) This Court will find this statutory mitigating circumstance is not supported by the evidence and does not exist. However, this Court will treat Mr. Beller's testimony as a non-statutory mitigating circumstance



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By

Debi Wef
Deputy Clerk

to be discussed later in this sentence order.

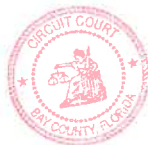
** OFFICIAL RECORDS **
BK 1427 PG 953

The Court finds the following non-statutory mitigating factors were presented for the Court's consideration.

A. The defendant has a former wife and daughter whom he loves very much and he is very concerned for. The Court finds this circumstance ^{does exist but} is not relevant to this crime and gives it ^{very little} weight. DTB

B. The defendant came from a divorced family and was unloved by his mother. The Court finds this circumstance does exist but is not relevant to this crime and gives it very little weight.

C. According to the MMPI, administered by Mr. Beller, the defendant has antisocial behavior and a bipolar manic personality. This profile, according to Mr. Beller, is consistent with someone who is extremely aggressive and acting out. Also, according to Mr. Beller, the defendant's profile suggests he has a sudden temper when under stress. His personality profile, as shown by his MMPI test results does exist. However, in light of the additional evidence presented in Mr. Beller's testimony that the defendant is not psychotic; the defendant does know the difference between right and wrong; the defendant is of superior intelligence with an IQ of 121 or in the upper 15% of the brightest in the population; the defendant, according to his former boss, is a good worker and able to follow instructions; he has no brain damage; he has the ability to think in the abstract in the superior range; the defendant's MMPI is frequently seen by Mr. Beller in other individuals not charged with murder or with any other crime; the defendant can be manipulative; and the defendant is a person who has an uncaring DTB



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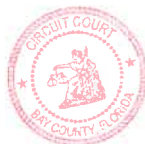
By Debi Welf
Deputy Clerk

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attitude, together with the facts and circumstances of the crime, the Court will give it very little weight. The Court specifically finds this mitigating circumstance of his MMPI profile, in view of the facts and circumstances of the crime stated by the Court in finding the existence of the third aggravating factor does not support any claim that the murder was not a cold calculated murder without any pretense of any moral or legal justification. The defendant, after having bound the victim for at least 20 minutes, with his uncaring attitude killed the person he knew would identify him if he let her live.

D. The defendant claims that he did not kill the victim. In light of the evidence in the case including the fact that the shoe prints of only one adult was found in the victim's home and these matched those found in the defendant's motel room, the Court finds this circumstance not to exist. The defendant has not offered any testimony or evidence to establish he was only an accomplice and his participation was minor. The only "evidence" offered is his testimony that he didn't do it. In view of the other evidence in this case, the Court does not believe his testimony.

In weighing all of the mitigating factors found by the Court to exist against the aggravating factors found to exist, the Court finds the aggravating factors out weigh the mitigating factors in this case. On appeal, should an appellate court find any one or two of the above named aggravating circumstances as invalid, this Court would still find that any one or two of the remaining valid aggravating circumstances would out weigh all the mitigating



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circumstances. The Court especially finds that should an appellate court find that the aggravating factor that the murder was cold, calculated and without any pretense of moral or legal justification is not supported by the evidence, the remaining two aggravating circumstances far out weigh the mitigating factors and therefore would not change the sentence of this Court as stated below.

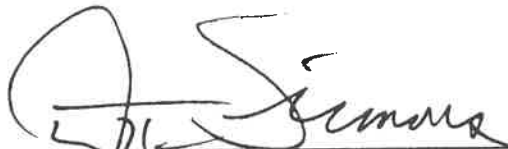
There being no legal cause shown why the judgment and sentence of the law should not be pronounced,

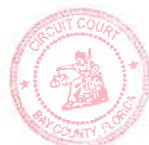
IT IS THE SENTENCE OF THE LAW that the defendant, Mark Allen Gerald, be taken into the custody of the Department of Corrections and there at an appointed place and time be put to death.

May God have mercy on your soul.

You have an automatic appeal to the Supreme Court of Florida from the judgment of guilt and the sentence the Court has imposed and the assistance of counsel in taking said appeal at the expense of the State.

DONE AND ORDERED this 13th day of April, 1993 at Panama City, Bay County, Florida.


DON T. SIRMONS, Circuit Judge



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OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By Albi Wef
Deputy Clerk

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DEATH WARRANT

STATE OF FLORIDA

WHEREAS, MARK ALLEN GERALDS, on or about the 1st day of February, 1989, murdered Tressa Lynn Pettibone; and

WHEREAS, MARK ALLEN GERALDS, on the 7th day of February, 1990, was convicted of first-degree murder, robbery with a deadly weapon, burglary of a dwelling with a weapon, and grand theft auto and, on the 13th day of April, 1993, was sentenced to death for the murder of Tressa Lynn Pettibone; and

WHEREAS, on the 30th day of April, 1992, the Supreme Court of Florida affirmed the convictions of MARK ALLEN GERALDS and, on the 22nd day of February, 1996, affirmed the death sentence of MARK ALLEN GERALDS; and

WHEREAS, on the 16th day of September, 2010, the Supreme Court of Florida affirmed the trial court order denying MARK ALLEN GERALDS's initial Motion for Postconviction Relief and denied his Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus; and

WHEREAS, on the 13th day of May, 2019, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida denied MARK ALLEN GERALDS's federal Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus; and

WHEREAS, on the 12th day of May, 2021, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the denial of MARK ALLEN GERALDS's federal Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus; and

WHEREAS, further postconviction motions and petitions filed by MARK ALLEN GERALDS have been denied and the denials affirmed on appeal; and

WHEREAS, executive clemency for MARK ALLEN GERALDS, as authorized by Article IV, Section 8(a), of the Florida Constitution, was considered pursuant to the Rules of Executive Clemency, and it has been determined that executive clemency is not appropriate; and

WHEREAS, attached hereto is a certified copy of the record of the conviction and sentence pursuant to section 922.052, Florida Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of the State of Florida and pursuant to the authority and responsibility vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of Florida, do hereby issue this warrant, directing the Warden of the Florida State Prison to cause the sentence of death to be executed upon MARK ALLEN GERALDS, in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of the State of Florida.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 7th day of November, 2025.




GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

2025 NOV - 7 PM 3:13
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL