



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office

David J. Lucero Sheriff
Steve Bryant Undersheriff

Mark A. Mears
Bureau Chief
Law Enforcement

Paul J. Toth
Bureau Chief
Detention

News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Gayle Perez 719 924 5471

Date: April 11, 2024

Man Sentenced to 70 years in DOC for 2021 Homicide/Kidnapping

Pueblo, CO: A 33-year-old Pueblo man was sentenced today to 70 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections for the 2021 kidnapping and murder of a 25-year-old man, whose body was found in Eastern Pueblo County.

Nicholas Tumblin pled guilty to second-degree murder and first-degree kidnapping in the homicide of Raymond Ray Jr., 25, whose body was found August 17, 2021, in a remote area of eastern Pueblo County. Pueblo County Sheriff's Investigation detectives investigated this incident.

Tumblin was sentenced to 44 years for the murder of Ray and an additional 16 years for the kidnapping of Ray. Tumblin also received another 10 years for a contraband possession charge he picked up while incarcerated in the Pueblo County Jail. All sentences will run consecutively.

Tumblin was also sentenced to 6 years in DOC after pleading guilty to manslaughter in the September 27, 2021, shooting death of Eric Trujillo, 36, which was investigated by Pueblo Police. Trujillo was shot near Bradford and E. Third Street in the City of Pueblo. The six-year sentence will run concurrent to the 70-year sentence.

Tumblin was arrested on a no-bond warrant October 1, 2021, by U.S. Marshals in New Mexico in connection with the Trujillo homicide. In June 2022, Tumblin was served, while he was in Pueblo County Jail, with an arrest warrant in the Ray homicide.

Ray's body was found August 17, 2021, by an individual working in an area near 62nd Lane in Eastern Pueblo County. Ray had been reported missing from a residence in the City of Pueblo on July 28, 2021. Pueblo County Sheriff's investigated the death which was determined to be a homicide by the Pueblo County Coroner's office. Through the investigation, the sheriff's detectives tied Tumblin to the homicide. Tumblin later confessed to the murder.

"Our detectives did a great job on this case and although it has taken more than 2½ years to get to this day, we hope this sentence offers a measure of justice to the victim's family and our community," said Pueblo County Sheriff David J. Lucero. "I commend the detectives for the work they did and for staying persistent and dedicated to bringing this case to closure."

###

