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County of Warren

PRESS RELEASE

Sentenced: **Ralph Atkinson**
 LKA: 13 Ramseyburg Road
 Columbia, NJ
 Date of Birth: 10/10/1975

On Tuesday, August 8, 2017, Ralph Atkinson, age 42, of Columbia, NJ, was sentenced on one count of Aggravated Manslaughter in the first degree and one count of Aggravated Sexual Assault of a minor in the first degree by the Honorable H. Matthew Curry, J.S.C. at the Warren County Courthouse in Belvidere.

Atkinson previously admitted that on May 14, 2014, in Washington Borough, he struck the victim, his girlfriend, in the head with a hammer several times and stabbed her in chest with a knife, which caused her death. Atkinson also admitted that he engaged in ongoing sexual acts of penetration with the victim's minor child who was under the age of thirteen (13).

Atkinson was sentenced to twenty-six (26) years in New Jersey State Prison subject to the No Early Release Act on the Aggravated Manslaughter charge and to twenty (20) years in the New Jersey State Prison, also subject to the No Early Release Act, for the guilty plea to the 1st degree Aggravated Sexual Assault charge. On the Aggravated Sexual Assault charge, Atkinson was also sentenced to Parole Supervision for Life, Megan's Law Registration, a Permanent Nicole's Law Restraining Order and a term of incarceration of the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center for Sexual Offenders. Both sentences shall be served concurrently.

Ralph Atkinson was represented by John McGuigan, Esq. and the State was represented by Assistant Prosecutor Victor R. Jusino and Assistant Prosecutor Amy M. Knutsen.

Approved by:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "R. Burke".

RICHARD T. BURKE
WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR

Dated: August 9, 2017