

SUBLETTE COUNTY AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
STATE OF WYOMING

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PRESS RELEASE

MADE AVAILABLE THIS 10TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2012

On February 9, 2012, a jury found Troy Dean Willoughby not guilty of the charge of first degree murder as a result of a second trial held in Lander, Wyoming.

The Sublette County Attorney's Office and the Sublette County Sheriff's Office extend our condolences to the members of the Ehlers family for the closure they have lost and the emotional difficulty they have experienced throughout the two criminal trials. We also extend our appreciation to attorneys Tony Howard and Scott Sargent for their diligent efforts as special prosecutors in a difficult, high-profile case.

The Sublette County Attorney's Office and the Sublette County Sheriff's Office cannot regret the decision to bring forward the previously undisclosed evidence which led to the second trial, as our ethical duties required the disclosure of that evidence. At this time, we are carefully evaluating all options available to bring accountability to those individuals who are alleged to have committed misconduct while engaged in the performance of their duties. It is unfortunate that the past actions of a small number of individuals, who are no longer employed by Sublette County, have tarnished the integrity of our legal system and our respective agencies. As we move forward under new elected leadership, we promise to be vigilant in ensuring that we adhere to the highest ethical standards of law enforcement and prosecutorial practices. Not only are those practices mandated by the United States and Wyoming Constitutions, they are deserved by the citizens and communities we serve.



Neal R. Stelting
Sublette County Attorney