

Florida killer of female prison guard loses appeal

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TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A Florida inmate who killed a female guard and a fellow prisoner has lost an appeal of his double murder conviction and death sentence.

The Florida Supreme Court on Thursday ruled 6-0 against Dwight T. Eaglin. He already was serving a life sentence for murder when he beat the two victims to death with a sledgehammer in 2003.

Guard Darla Kay Lathrem was the state's first female correctional officer killed in the line of duty.

Two other inmates also were convicted of murder in a botched attempt to escape from Charlotte Correctional Institution in southwest Florida.

Steven Smith also received a death sentence, which the Supreme Court previously upheld. Michael Jones was sentenced to life in prison.

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