Man Gets Life for Dismembering Girlfriend

A north Florida man has avoided the death penalty by pleading guilty to dismembering and decapitating his girlfriend.

Reporter: Associated Press

St. Augustine, FL (AP) - A north Florida man has avoided the death penalty by pleading guilty to dismembering and decapitating his girlfriend.

A St. Johns County judge sentenced 51-year-old Timothy Dale Rose to life in prison Thursday after he pleaded guilty to first-degree murder.

Jan Dunn Keller, who taught third grade at a Palatka elementary school, was found dead in August, several days after she was reported missing. When deputies went to the St. Augustine home the 48-year-old woman shared with Rose, they found him unconscious with an empty pill bottle and shotgun nearby.

Deputies found parts of Keller's body wrapped in a tarp in the garage. They later found other parts of her buried in a nearby undeveloped area.

Rose apologized to Keller's family members Thursday, saying that he didn't remember anything about the killing.

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