

Man gets life in prison for wife's murder accidentally recorded on cell phone

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LARGO, Florida — A Tampa Bay-area man convicted of killing his wife after accidentally calling her [cell phone](#) and leaving a recording of the murder was sentenced to life in prison.

A [Pinellas County](#) judge sentenced 45-year-old Ronald Earl Williams on Friday. A jury found him guilty Thursday night of second-degree murder.

Prosecutors had been seeking a first-degree murder conviction and a possible death sentence.

Prosecutors said Williams activated his cell phone, which then called his wife's cell phone while he was killing her. Voicemail recorded Williams saying he was going to kill her, followed by 31-year-old Mariama Williams' terrified screams.

The defense acknowledged that Williams killed his wife but argued that it was not premeditated.