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Press Release

Carpenito guilty of manslaughter in Weymouth stabbing homicide

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Eric G. Carpenito, 34, has been found guilty of voluntary manslaughter in the May 2011 stabbing of 50-year old David Lilley, Jr. in the apartment Weymouth apartment the two men shared.

"The jury deliberated for more than ten hours before delivering this verdict, and it appears that they were thoughtful in their deliberations. While they may not have found that Mr. Carpenito's actions met all of the elements of murder, they found that this was a criminal homicide," District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said after the verdict was read at roughly 4 p.m. on January 24, 2013. "Carpenito will be sentenced at 2 p.m on January 31. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison."

Defense attorney John Palmer had argued that Carpenito had acted in self-defense during an altercation between the defendant and Lilley after the two argued over money and living arrangements.

"We are not privy to jury deliberations, but we know that case law establishes circumstances where a jury can find mitigating factors that bring a murder indictment to a manslaughter verdict. Those factors include cases where excessive force is used in self-defense, or certain killings in the heat of passion or in sudden combat," Morrissey said. "That may be what occurred here."

Judge Kenneth Fishman, who presided over the trial, will pass sentence, Morrissey said.

"Assistant District Attorney Thomas Finigan, working with appeals ADA Pamela Alford and Victim/Witness advocate Beth Avola, called 28 witnesses to the stand to present what proved to be a complex and demanding case," District Attorney Morrissey said. "The Massachusetts State Police attached to the Norfolk District Attorney's Office, the Weymouth Police Department, State Police Crime Scene Services and others involved in the investigation worked hard to put a difficult case together."

"I extend my sympathies to David Lilley's family and friends for their loss," Morrissey said. "It is my hope that it might provide some measure of solace to his family that the jury has held Eric Carpenito accountable for this crime."