

Budge, Julie 221500803 Sentencing

Mon, Jun 03, 2024 3:26PM 1:05:47

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

court, julie, bullard, day, life, matt, offense, honor, years, adam, dad, information, actions, statement, budge, courtroom, sentence, trial, april, prison



00:00

In the state of Utah versus Julianne budge. This is the types after sentencing in the case. This budget is present with his counsel, the state's represented. The courts received a precise report and associate the come impact statements course reviewed those. Earlier the the defense had taken exception to some portions of the precise report, you've withdrawn those six exceptions that correct.



00:37

Or you are in reference to the motion that was prepared. Yeah. Yeah. That will that was withdrawn and that any any corrections or additions that we have will just make orally?



00:50

Does the defense want to you want to speak to the report into the recommendation at this time?



00:56

Yes, judges that work. So upon reviewing the report, we did notice some concerns that we have in regards to additions or corrections that need to be made. So first on page, it's going to be page three, where APMP identifies the level. The level is not consistent with the information that was provided. So for example, the Companions portion where she indicates that she doesn't have many companions, but has a lot of support through her family. And that's who she associates with, they identify that as medium. The one below it that is more concerning is the criminal history, which is identified as a high level. But that is based upon information pertaining to her her traffic offenses. And we can review the criminal history but the only thing that is there is a 2015 reckless driving charge, where she was ordered to pay a fine in the amount of \$680. And so absent that there is no additional information relevant to her criminal history. Okay. In regards to page seven, I realized that the APMP officer likely went off of the information that was obtained in the police reports. But obviously, some of that information that came out during the course of trial, primarily, which led to the dismissal of the to hit and

run charges. Part of that is on page seven, that last paragraph that's there that addresses all of the hit and run allegations. And so given the fact that she was acquitted of those charges, we would ask that that portion be stricken from the record?



02:48

Well, clearly, she was kind of not guilty of those, those two offenses and courts not taking into consideration the evidence associated with them.



03:00

Okay, our concern is that if it does go to the board, we at least want to make sure that it's that it's noted that those objections are being made. Failing to make the objections can cause concern elsewhere. So similarly, on page eight, there's a list of the drugs that she was that were located inside the vehicle, which she was obviously prescribed, in addition to the information that comes out in the Doppel report, all of that information was obviously deemed to be irrelevant at trial. And so we would ask that that portion be stricken from the record for the same reasons.



03:45

What's your response? Your Honor,



03:47

these are all relevant in to include whether or not she's amenable towards any type of rehabilitation. We believe that these are relevant, the fact that she had all those act, all those drugs were located in her vehicle at the time, the judge ruled that they were not admissible for trial purposes, but this is at sentencing. And we believe that they are they should be allowed and to give a broad picture of who the individual is and who we're dealing with.



04:19

Well, clearly, ibuprofen and acetaminophen are a counter type drugs and



04:30

Nope, I understand. On page 12 Under the section of probation and parole, this information is completely illegal and should not be included in there. So we are asking that this be stricken. It looks like there was an incident back in 2006, I'm assuming or SS 2005. She had an offense that was expunged lawfully and legal We, none of that information should not be included. Okay. So we would obviously ask that that portion be stricken. There's also mentioned of it on page 14, that should not be relevant to these proceedings in any way.



05:14

They any information with respect to prior offenses that have been expunged, or to be excluded from the report?



05:26

Thank you Judge. In regards to the pre sentence recommendation report itself, obviously, what we're looking at here is the matrix which is created by the Sentencing Commission, which takes into consideration information from the community, attorney's probation, all of the different entities associated with the criminal justice system, they have indicated that what is appropriate in this case, for this type of offense is the zero to 210 with 105 being the midpoint for each of those first, offenses, obviously, APMP has attempted to deviate upward. And in doing so, they're using a number of things to justify that recommendation. My concern is, is that the the recommendation per APMP is that should be given the zero to five on the two felonies that are have been asked to run consecutive, in addition to 180 days of jail time for the reckless driving, and then ask the court to impose a fine on the traffic offense. And so in the sentencing guidelines themselves, obviously, as I mentioned, it's the 210 with the 105. But in an effort to to deviate upward on that the previous report does not include the misdemeanor matrix, which would indicate if you reviewed that on the reckless driving charge, it would show that presumption is probation. And if the court was to impose jail, it would be a maximum of 15 days. But the record excuse me a recommendation of 15 days, the Sentencing Commission indicates that what they recommend and the circumstances were those are lesser included is that 10% of whatever that fine is, is what's imposed. So in this case, we'd be looking at \$680. So they would ask that the 10% be imposed, but can obviously be



07:28

let's see interference. themselves. Okay. You may proceed.



07:36

The Commission recommends that it's that 10%, but also recommends that if there's another way to alleviate that, that that makes more sense. So we would ask that the credit that she's been in custody would be applied towards that misdemeanor offense in lieu of the 180 days that APMP is recommending in regards to the homicide charges. APMP is recommendation for the the offenses that the reason for their departure is that they indicated that the defendant chose to drive her vehicle while substances were in her system, altering her ability to drive safely, her negligence resulted in the death of two bicyclists. The Sentencing Commission is very clear in that if the elements of the offense that the court is considering it can't be a basis to deviate upward. So in this case, when citing upon the appropriate sentence, the death of another is obviously part of the element of that offense, they've already taken that into consideration. And so the recommendations are very clear that it's not supposed to be used as an aggravating offense thereafter, otherwise, they refer to it as doubling up. And so we obviously don't think that that's appropriate. The other issue that they indicated for their deviation was that she displayed some some minimization. And so without getting into the

facts, we have no interest in doing that. But obviously, there is still a situation here, where my client is maintaining her innocence in regards to the impairment. Obviously, she's she understands that the offense occurred, and she's taking responsibility for that. But that was the only minimization that I guess would be there. They also indicate that she had been found guilty of violations in the jail. I haven't received any of that information. I'm not sure what that is. But given the fact that they didn't result in new offenses, they're not identified as aggravating factors on the matrix. And the fact that she was punished by that per their own words by saying that she was put in lockdown. I don't think the court should consider that issue as as well. And then finally, judge as we mentioned, they go on to to address the traffic history. And I can tell you in my time, I've never seen a pre sentence report where we go over somebody's traffic history. That's the That's the issue. In regards to the criminal history there, while there are a number of traffic offenses that are identified on there, the other thing to



10:14

point out, there are seven offenses that resulted in accidents. But clearly, prior to this offense, the last was 2015 2015. Yeah,



10:28

so seven years old. And that's what I was gonna say is that there hasn't been anything since 2015. And so we would ask you to take that into consideration as well. Judge at this point, I'll let you know that as of today, our calculations would indicate that she served 786 days total. There is a restitution request, that indicates it's the item or the number is in there, but it's currently at \$17,154.26. But the pre sentence report made it very clear that there would be additional costs coming forward. So my suggestion in addressing restitution is that the epi handled once the sentence is addressed. She is on disability. And so we have some some issues on that. But our request at this time would be is that given the fact that she served the 786 days that she be given credit for the time that she served, as should be released to adult probation and parole for supervision and that she undergo a substance abuse assessment with any recommended treatment, and then abide by any orders that this Court might have, in addition to making sure that she remains in contact with her doctors for any medications that she has, and anything else that the court is asking.



11:46

Thank you, to Island. State ticking the exception to the report.



11:53

We do believe that the report is appropriate. These are APMP has gone through extensively gone over her traffic record, which is a history of her criminal behavior. In addition, they have gone over her own statements. We believe everything that they have done is appropriate with the exception of the matrix. I'm tired with with the exception of the expunged record, believe that it should not be included. And that's with regards to the psi, Your Honor.



12:35

To speak to the recommendation, or do you want?



12:40

I can, Your Honor. Is that how was the court? Well,



12:44

however, if I you've indicated that there are victims present that desire to make a statement to the court, is that correct? That's correct. We could take their statements and then you you could speak to the recommendation. Okay. Then permit Ms. Budge if she desires to speak to the court concerning sentencing. All



13:08

right. Thank you, Jana. I believe that this time we would like to call the Jacob



13:18

okay, if you just come to the lectern right there, right here



13:22

on your arm.



13:25

You're gonna make a statement from there. Yeah, there's a microphone right here. If you just state your name, and then you make making statements. I think it would be helpful to the court.



13:35

I'm Jacob Bullard. I'm Adam son. How are you doing? Your Honor? Good to see that's good. My name is Jacob Bullard. And I am Adam son. I had to you're 22 years with my dad until April 9 2022. Julie budge killed my dad and my uncle Matt. I hadn't witnessed both of them unresponsive on the dirty floor. With their bikes shattered and broken into million pieces all over the roadway. No description of the scene will ever put in perspective of what happened in

that day. I'm going to try and explain it to you right now. I had to see my dad on the floor blood all over him and my Uncle Matt and you're telling me that their lives are only worth zero to five years now even consecutive is insane.



14:34

Direct your your comments to the court not anyone Sorry.



14:39

It's a day I wish I could forget a day. That will be the worst pain of my existence in my life. The last memory I had with my dad was supposed to be a fun day spend together riding our bikes, but it will be the last time I hold my dad in his voice to look at him. laugh and have them in my life. No son should ever have to go through such a senseless, horrific and avoidable crime. They will never be a closure here. There is no moving on. There is nothing time does not heal. I thought it would. And after two years, I still see my dad on the floor. me holding him in wishing that it was just not real. All the time has done is making my dad missing longer in my life. The past few years have been the hardest years of my life. Not having a dad best friend. around with a pain is just pain Annette imaginable. My dad has been my best friend since the day I was born. He has always been there for me no matter what. He has been my rock my foundation of my life. He has made me the fun and calm and my dad has spent every day with me. We spent the night under the stars camping, taking road trips, snowboarding, backpacking, biking. Here's the sideline every soccer game every track meet me laughter faces off and now I have no one to laugh with



16:32

my house is quiet without him



16:40

I miss them so much. And all I could do is avoid not thinking about them. My life is lonely without him and are so bad



16:56

and only have is PTSD. Every single night. I've been in counseling and it hurts so bad. It hasn't done anything. There are nights where I couldn't sleep. There are nights where it's just miserable there are other days I'm angry and that is most of the time. Why did this woman's destructive behavior have to ruin everything? It took my dad and uncle away from me. I didn't deserve it. My dad or Matt didn't deserve it. I know my dad misses me and my mom he's gonna miss this forever. And my dad will never get to see me graduate college. You will never get married you will never see kids



18:01

all I could do is close my eyes and picture it picture in



18:10

picture all the fun times we had. No, I'm furious angry. And how this trial could be mister represented so much. Julie budge had one thing on her mind and that was getting high. Julie managed to manipulate everyone until she got what she wanted. The mixed cocktail of prescriptions that they after the trip of fentanyl, then getting in her car intoxicated crashed your vehicle into my dad and uncle. Watch me and my cousin scream immense pain, disbelief and shock. There was no medical emergency. She wasn't there. This thing should be a zero tolerance for murder. That could have easily been avoidable. Julie is taking from the taxpayers her family's financial security. Blaming police officers lie to her doctors. I mean, ridiculous reasons, medical reasons and blamed even the brakes of her vehicle. It is time for Julie to realize she is to blame. She drove away. She didn't offer aid. Even she didn't even bother to call 911 All she did was call her mom to bring her Gatorade and you really expect me she feels sorry. That is the extent of her extent of compassion. Julie has been was way more concerned about what she was going to have to deal with and say to get away with it to get away from requiring my pain you don't care about and I hope that resonates I Hope I follow and respect laws in my life. I'm a good citizen, I take care of others and I will continue my life. According to the morals and values I have been taught from my dad and my mom. I had to watch my mom every single day crying yourself to sleep. It only made me angrier and angrier and angrier. I will stay who I am, and I'm not gonna let you change me. I will be dependable. And I will show fairness to others, and show gratitude and humanity, how you continue to know the importance of making wise and valuable decisions. You only show me not to be who you are. That is who my parents raised me to be. What the world deserves me and what feels good, Your Honor, I am pleading for the maximum consecutive sentence for Julie in prison, Adam Bullard and Matthew Bullard have a name. And I want her to be reminded of them every single day as she's in prison where she belongs. And I'm hopeful she will get the punishment she deserves. She has contributed nothing to our society. Nothing at all. And that's all Thank you.



21:23

Thank you, Mr.



21:29

Harvey Bullard come forward



21:43

state your name and you make any statement you think it'd be helpful to the court. Okay,



21:47

my name is Abigail Kate Bullard. Okay, my name is Abigail Kate Bullard. And I am the oldest of Matt and April's four children. I would like to start by saying that I really do not think about you much, Julie, if I let you cross my mind, it makes me think of all the things you took away from me. Because of your actions, I will never be able to see my dad as long as I'm alive. I will never be able to make more memories with him. He won't be at my wedding, he will never meet his grandchildren. All they will know are pictures of their grandpa Matt. In the stories I will tell them about how amazing funny faithful and kind he was. For those reasons. You do not deserve to even cross my mind. My thoughts belong to me. And I will not let you take anything else away from me. But every once in a while, especially when I come into this courtroom, my mental strength is weaker. And I think about you more. When you do cross my mind. I am angry at you. Your reckless reckless actions harmed more people than you were ever realize. I'm also angry at your mother back there who has enabled you day after day object



22:59

at this point based upon the information we discussed in chambers.



23:02

It's not about you. I wasn't talking about you I was told not to talk about you again.



23:07

Just address yourself to the court not that I you can you can you can tell how how this case is impacted you. But don't make other than the defenders don't make any direction towards any other person.



24:00

This may seem strange to you, but whenever you do cross my mind, I also think about your daughter. I feel so much sorrow for her. My dad always put his kids first and didn't have a choice to leave this. You chose that for him. The Bullard children were not the only ones to lose a parent that day. You chose to be reckless, and your daughter lost a parent to I don't know anything about her. But I can only imagine what she thinks about you. What April 9 was like for her. How embarrassing it must be Whenever someone asks about her mom and she has to tell them that you are in jail for killing two people. In the past two years I have moved on in my life. I choose happiness every day. And even without my dad here with me, I still find contentment because that is the one thing you cannot take from me. I am a believer that a person should not have to be defined by their rock bottoms in life. For the past two years you have sat in your jail cell And in this courtroom, known only for what you did on April 9 2022. I know that must cause you pain. And I assume you only wish people knew all the positive things you have done in your life. I don't believe that I have the right to judge you solely based on one day of your life. I believe in forgiveness. And I know that my dad in heaven has forgiven you, because that's the type of person Matt Bullard is, I want to forgive you and I truly am open to it. But you have made it really hard to do so. Forgiveness is not one sided. You the offender must be remorseful and seek forgiveness, and the person who was offended, I must be humble enough to allow you

the chance to prove that you have changed. It is hard to forgive you because you have never proved to me that you have changed or want to change. You have never shown one ounce of remorse to me or my family. You have never even said the word sorry to us. The only time we ever saw you shed a tear in this courtroom was when the conversation surrounded yourself and your uncomfortable circumstances. If you seek forgiveness from me, the ball is in your court. I know my mentality different differs from some of my family members and friends. Most of them will never forgive you understandably and you must live with that every day of your life. I hope that one day you can prove to me that this incident is not what defines you and that when you leave prison hopefully after the maximum consecutive sentence possible. Hopefully you will have learned a lesson from all of this and work hard to live a better and changed life. If you do not this pain we have all experienced will all have been for absolutely nothing. I hope I do not have to see you for a very long time. Now that I have said my piece I will once again choose to go back to my happy life where you do not cross my mind goodbye Julie Thank you



27:04

call Shannon Bullard.



27:18

He naman, then make a statement. Do you think it would be helpful to the court? Your Honor,



27:24

I am Shannon Bullard, the widow of Adam and the mothers who are only child Jacob Bullard. I sat for two years in this courtroom where Matt and Adam barely had a name. But today, Matt and Adam Well, I stand before you today representing the many lives that have been affected due to the events that took place on April 9 2022. I represent Adam and Matt's family, their siblings and its mother who suffered immensely from the crime against to their children. To meticulously try to articulate and put into context, the magnitude of the pain you have inflicted upon my family will never happen today. There would be no way anyone could understand this heartlight heartache unless you were standing here today in my shoes. What I will say is that none of what I'm saying today will change the reality of what Julie did and the choices that she made. That will never bring my husband back or my brother back. Julie robbed the life of two remarkable men who are pillars of light in our lives. She robbed their families and children of having them here with us today. And we're left with only memories to hold on to on April 9 2022 When she committed this selfish, horrendous and avoidable crime. I took a call from my son that day. I had to listen to the agony and the most heartbreaking anguish and scream you can imagine from my son telling me his dad and uncle Matt got hit by someone. The last thing I remember from that call was my son screaming not my dad. My dad, please God, mom. I'm so scared. My son or nephew witnessed her father's die. What that does to a mother was beyond comprehension. That call has forever been embedded in my heart and head. And Julie didn't even have the audacity to pick up the phone and call 911. Julie has devastated countless lives of friends and family members and left empty holes in so many hearts that will never be healed. There is no healing. We just tried to learn how to cope with this pain. I remember December 31 2022 like it was yesterday. I didn't want to go into the next year or live in 2023 Without I cried so hard that night and contemplating The most horrendous things than another

year came and another and there will be another. I am not the same person anymore. I've lost my identity. I lost my purpose. I have days I can't even get out of bed and chase the world. It's so hard to spend time with other families because it just reminds me of the life I don't have anymore. I can't be around couples celebrating anniversaries. It's a constant reminder of what was taken from me. I get to sit back and watch Happy Families Together on holidays and vacations and I get to be alone without way out. There are sleepless nights and nightmares from this trauma. There are nights I wake up and a deep sweat crying from vivid images of my husband in the casket been able to breathe. The endless tears that I've cried and the stress and toll it has put on my health is great. I live in constant fear of loss again. I get anxiety every time my son leaves the house and is driving home late at night returning from work. I lost my zone for life. I don't recognize happiness anymore. Because I don't have Adam to share my life. Back I lost the passion and intensity I had for my career. I took an extensively from work. I couldn't manage a company and stuff if I couldn't even manage the pain I was in and 21 years it worked for a company. And I think I missed a week for appendix surgery. I work so hard at a career. And that's work is gone. My future goals were plan to spend without them. Our retirement together was paved out. And that too was almost by Julie. The financial burden that Julie left on our family has been huge. I don't have my husband to contribute to our household. The last two years driving back and forth to St. George spending our save, traveling to hearings on hotel rooms medical bills, funeral expenses therapy. There were endless motions that were filed. That caused me to miss more time from work take unnecessary unpaid days off, use vague location time to travel that maximize more loss of wages. Emotional distress that was caused during this trial felt cruel and intentional. I felt zero consideration and respect shown for my grieving family during that time. Despite it all it did not want to lose my faith in the criminal justice process. Continue to put on a brave face. The killing of two innocent men and participating in a biking event has to come with significant punishment. Utah is visited by travelers from all over the world to take part in during sporting events. That's why my family was here. They should feel confident with the safety and security here. Julie buy does not need to crime. Fiction, the world had an opportunity to view her social media plat form at the time of arrest prior to her deleting and turning her account private. She has shown no remorse for her actions and she never truly will comprehend the magnitude of her actions. Until he has brought so much anger in my life. I used to be happy. The fact that she will walk on this earth and while our families don't have met an atom infuriates me, the void you left in my heart will never be filled. You think living in jealous hell. Well, I'm here to tell you that I am living far worse. And I only hope that you serve the maximum time for your crimes to committed. I hope every time a prison door cell closes on you that you will be reminded that you murdered two innocent men. The life sentence here is our Julie and my opinion I wish that you never had the privilege again to be free to hurt someone else. The community in Utah does not need you here. We have a responsibility to protect those who visit this majestic place. They deserve to be free and safe from people like you. I hope that you give them the recommended consecutive my maximum sentence in prison for the deaths of Matt and Adam today. Their life is worth much more than that alone. Thank you, Your Honor. Hey, thank you.



34:29

April Bullard Your Honor.



34:45

to state your name and then make any statement you think would be helpful to the court.



34:50

I am April Bullard, the wife of Matthew Bullard and sister in law to Adam Bullard. Matt and I have four children Are they sat in this court in the courtroom down the hall for five days during the trial, as we watch the attorney, attorneys place more focus on the defendant than on the fact that we no longer have a future with Matt Natta minute. My children have been so traumatized by this legal circus, that some of them have chosen not to speak today. And one has chosen not to even be here today. It is so painful for them to be in the courtroom and difficult for them to look at you, Julie. One of the kids, one of my kids pointed out to me that Julio resembles a skeleton and a turtle. And because looking at you hurts our hearts so bad. Three of them have chosen to forego this opportunity to state to the court in person, how they feel, and how they have been impacted by you and your actions. But I'm here and I will speak for them. Your Honor. Julie budes in this courtroom today, she is an addict. She has openly admitted to being an addict.



36:22

Your honor for purposes of the record. Thank you



36:37

this is who killed Matt and Adam. Their names weren't mentioned more than a few times during the trial. And their picture was only shown once. This is my husband and this is my brother in law.



37:20

The jury trial was for Julie. But today is for Matt and Adam in our family. And I thank you your honor for this time to finally be heard. The positive impact Matt and Adam made on the world was huge. It was evident in life by how many friends they had over 1000 people. Over 1000 people attended their funeral. It was the largest funeral I have a verse. All of those people showed up because of how they were positively impacted by Matt and Adam. It was also evident during the jury trial, our side of the courtroom was packed shoulder to shoulder every single day. This shows how important Matt and Adam were to this world. Julie, nothing will bring back Matt and Adam. You killed them. I know nothing I say to you will change anything. And I doubt that you even comprehend the damage you have done and the pain you have caused. You are not intelligent enough to understand the negative impact you have had on this world. Unlike Matt and Adam, I'm sure you've never made a positive impact on anyone. If you had there would have been more people here to support you during the trial. You only had one person sitting behind you the entire week. Your mom your own daughter didn't even come to support you know friends came. That's so sad. This shows how unimportant you are in this world. Your Honor to say I was disappointed in the jury's verdict would be a great understatement. They ruled negligent automobile homicide. The jury was not able to hear the full story though. There were so many facts that were withheld from them. Because of this they did not hold Julie budge criminally liable. I disagree with their findings. What really happened on

April 9. What the jury wasn't allowed to hear proves how Julie budge is most certainly a criminal. All of us all of us in this room know what really led up to the moment Matt and Adam were killed except for maybe Julie. So Julie Let me refresh your memory for you. The morning after receiving a fentanyl drip, you asked your pharmacy pharmacist to refill for a refill of your drugs. She told you it was too early for a refill. So you called your doctor and begged him to refill your prescription. He then called the pharmacy and lied to the pharmacist telling her that he approved the refill because you were going out of town. You will never go in out of town. That was either an addicts ploy to get your fix, or a lie your dishonest doctor told you were also captured on film picking up and then immediately and adjusting pills. You got high, you've gotten your car and you drove the drugs you took made you sleepy and you fell asleep behind the wheel. You lost control of the steering wheel and you swerve to the right. plowing into Matt and Adam while they were riding their butt their bikes along the curb. You were driving over 50 miles an hour and you hit them. My husband's body hit your windshield. natum died instantly and didn't even know what happened. You didn't even see them because you weren't coherent. You didn't even know what you did until after your car stopped and someone told you what you had done. After that you squatted on the side of the road, and you went poop. You didn't even have a medical emergency. You didn't crap in your car and you didn't have any poop in your pants. So to some of the actions of that day, you took drugs, you got high, and then you killed two wonderful men. Julie, your actions have negatively impacted my life and the lives of my children in ways your brain will never be able to comprehend. I almost feel like it's pointless to try to explain it to you. But because I have this opportunity to speak. I want you to listen closely to the hurt you have caused to the hearts and minds of my children. My son Michael expressed in his statement to the court the following. When I reached my father, he was lying on the ground. But his eyes were open looking at me. So I thought he was alive and I was waiting for him to speak. I tried to talk to him. I was screaming his name, hoping he would answer but he did not. I thought maybe he wasn't conscious. I screamed and begged him to be alive. And my cousin was doing the same thing. Begging, crying, pleading for help. After a while the police, ambulances and many civilians came to our aid. They were trying their best to calm me down. But it just wasn't working. I was hyperventilating until it hurt. And I was exhausted from crying. This was my 16 year old son to experience this because of you Julie.



43:26

My daughter said sorry, my mouth is really dry. Can I get water?



43:34

You will take a minute. No. Hold yourself.



43:45

My daughter Sarah, who is 10 years old when you killed her father said this in her statement to the court. Since my dad died, I have been afraid of other people dying. Especially my mom. It scares me to think about something bad happening to hurt to a young child should never have to fear of becoming an orphan. My oldest daughter Abby, who you heard today, expressed how your actions have affected her emotionally in her statement to the court. Since April she says this since April 9. I have struggled with anxiety that affects me every single day, I had to be

prescribed medication to treat the panic attacks that I began to have. I have recounted my story to therapists trying to receive any bits of advice and coping strategies. Julie budj suffers from mental health issues herself and her thoughtless actions have passed these same hardships on to me and my other family members. And lastly, my daughter Amanda shared with the court how your actions have caused her so much sadness. She says, I got married in April of 2023, a day before the year mark of my dad's death. What was supposed to be such an amazing day also brought a lot of sadness. My dad was not able to see me get married, I couldn't dance with him. He couldn't witness my joy and happiness. This kills me. I was so sad. Now, the only way I'm able to hug my dad, is if when I'm crying, I hug my husband, and pretend it's my dad hugging me back. As a mother, who was left to manage the aftermath of your actions, Julie, I want you to know how much you have hurt my heart. To all of you in this courtroom, who didn't get a chance to know Matt and Adam. I'm sorry for that. You missed out on the chance to have two of the nicest, kindest, coolest, honest and amazing men as friends. Matt was my best friend. And the most amazing



46:22

Adam was the greatest uncle I could have asked for for my kids. I used to think that if anything ever happened to my husband, at least my kids would have uncle Adam in their lives to fill in for their father. Now they don't even have that. I love my husband and I miss him every day. And I will miss him every day until I see him again. He used to kiss me every day and say to our kids, Hey, kids, watch your dad loves your mom. I missed those kisses. This is the last kiss I gave my husband. And this is all because of you Julie.



47:24

Before I close my statement, Your Honor, I would like to thank Zack Ryan, Officer painter, Scott Ray, and everyone else who helped with the investigation and our case. I would like to thank the witnesses who stopped to help them out. And Adam, Michael, and Jacob. I would like to thank your honor for taking this case. I now plead with you to please please prevent Julie budge from allowing any more people to lose their lives or be hurt by her carelessness. When she is released from prison, she will abuse drugs again. And she will kill again. Because of this, please Your Honor sentenced her to the maximum amount of time that you are allowed to please do not release her with time served. Man Adam were worth so much more than two years. Our family and the rest of society needs this. Thank you, Your Honor.



48:34

Thank you. While you may make a statement with respect to the state's position with respect to sentencing.



48:46

Thank you, Your Honor. You are it's the state strongest recommendation that the defendant be sends to zero to five years on each count and consecutive to each other, that she'd be sentenced to the Utah State Prison that she in order to get the necessary help that she needs.

We have grave concerns and what she is that she has not changed, that she continues to manipulate and to abuse the system. In her own statement, Your Honor, she talks about how that she was driving and I'm reading on page nine of the psi says I was driving to the store at the time had been suffering from major health problems and been diagnosed as failure to thrive and being fed through my port, Your Honor. Prior to this investigation, we found that we requested a copy of her health records. They were sealed. We had judge Westfall review. When asked how many pages he had to review there was over 1000 pages of medical records that he had to review. He allowed us to only use A small sampling of them. I want to play. Like, I think like 14 pages of that 1000 pages, Your Honor. She indicated that she had all these medical issues and she was diagnosed with failure to thrive. But immediately upon her arrest after killing two innocent individuals, that when she walked into the jail she came in at 110 pounds. She had to be fed through a port, she said, immediately within the first week, they quit feeding her through that port. In addition, she also started to gain weight. She is now as of May 145, she's gained 35 pounds in this two years. In addition, she's gotten as high as 162 pounds, all while in the care and constant supervision of the Gil. Not withstanding this care and supervision she continuous continuously asked for more medical. She has submitted in the two years that she's been in there over 300 requests to be seen by medical one every other day. She complains anywhere from nosebleeds to open wounds on her face to I'm sorry, not nose, but issues with her sinuses, open wounds to her face, chapped lips, she would complain of diarrhea, and then she would complain of constipation. And then she talked about your ears. There's numerous she continually continuously is requesting medical. She's seen the doctor. She's been provided doctors 158 times in that two years, she has seen the dentist 10 times the nurse there has been over 91 visits, she has seen the coordinator for outside providers 102 times, and this is just for her seeking medical care, she will continue to do so if she is least. I believe that she's on linger. I believe that she has a profound exaggeration of illnesses in order to gain access to drugs and to avoid responsibility like work. Your Honor, she has killed two people. In the four months prior to her being arrested, she had obtained over 795 pills. She had seen several doctors and she was obtaining these pills. On the day of she asked for and received her latest or last prescription She used that and it wasn't found in her system that was a CNS depressant. We believe that she used that and that caused the accident. She was found guilty of criminal or automobile homicide, which at the time of the offense, and it was zero to five punishment. However now, Your Honor, as of May, the state legislation has changed for the exact same offense that she was found guilty of. It is mandatory. That's a five to 15 year prison sentence. And if Dunn's consecutively it'd be 10 to 30 years. We are asking that the court abide by the law that was at the time that zero to five, and that she'd be sentenced to prison, zero to five on each count consecutive to each other with regards to the you know, reckless driving six months concurrent with regards to the it was like illegal Lane operations and a fraction, you know, fines being stayed. We want her to understand the importance of this that based on her actions that she took that day and taking drugs that she caused the death of these two innocent individuals and we think that prison is the only thing to protect the citizens of Washington County again. Thank you. Thank you.



54:14

Miss budge, this is your opportunity to make any statement you think would be helpful to the court in your sentence.



54:30

Your Honor, I have listened to everything that has been said today. I have read everything that the victim's family have written by up lived and I will live knowing I have killed two people every day of my life. I'm very sorry for me and I have closed these families. I'm sorry for the love both blurred families.



55:08

I hope that was a sentence impose, this will allow the families to move forward with the healing process. Determined to be a better person going forward, be a better mother, Daughter and Sister.



55:31

I hope to give back to the community in an effort to help others, serve others and be a better member of the community. Again, my sincere apology to the families of Matt and Adam. And I'm very sorry. For all the hurt and pain of costume. I would give anything back. Okay, thank you.



56:07

Anything else from the defense?



56:10

Does the only thing I wanted to let this court know is Mr. Whelan wrote up the information about the change in Miss budes weight. The medical records actually show that Miss budge was being prescribed a medication for her rheumaty arthritis that she was that they basically give to cancer patients. They didn't realize that she was having the problem with it until a couple of weeks before this incident, at which time they took her off of that. And that's when her weight began to change. So there's no question that upon going into the jail, that those things occurred.



56:55

The only other thing I just want to remind the court is that we tried to demonstrate the fact that Miss budge was remorseful during trial, we were only allowed to provide clips as opposed to the entire video. So we picked a few of those clips that that clearly demonstrated that she was upset by this. We've had communications with her on several occasions that have been full of emotion and full of regret. She tried to take her own life a week after being in custody, dealing with the fact that she had that she knows that she killed these two individuals. This is not a story of someone who isn't regretful and isn't remorseful of what had occurred. She obviously hasn't been given the opportunity to talk. But she is no less important than anybody else, regardless of the number of friends that she has is the number of family members that are present. She's a human being. And tragedies happen and mistakes happen and accidents happen. And we're begging this court for an opportunity to allow her the opportunity to move

on and try to do things different understanding that there's nothing that can be done in this courtroom that's going to alleviate the pain of the victim's family and bring their loved ones back. With that we'll submit judge



58:13

fields first while your accidents do happen. But this one could have been avoided. She should have stayed at home and not go out shopping while taking drugs. And based on the fact that she did take those drugs and gotten to the vehicle and drove away two men are dead. Thinking.



58:35

In this murder, the court has indicated reviewed the pre sentence report to review the the impact statements by the by the victims families has heard those statements again in court here today. heard argument by Councilman and statement my I miss budge. I'm now in my I think my 30th year of being a judge.



59:11

And I've I have handled quite a number of cases that have involved there. And I can tell you that no matter what the matrix may say as to what an appropriate sentence should be. For these cases. Death is different when you're dealing with a crime involving the death, and here we're involving the death of two individuals. Because because of the nature and the finality of deaths that



59:59

you courts mind. The matrix is a lawyer, they clearly have their place and the court follows them on most occasions. Sometimes I have deviated below but the matrix calls for. And some occasions I've deviated above his budget, I think this particular case



1:00:32

given given the nature of the crime, and that you caused the death of two individuals, the court is going to deviate from the from the matrix and from the sentencing guidelines. The court had the opportunity to hear the trial and hear all the evidence. Part of that evidence was videos of you at the scene of the of the where the accident took place that caused the deaths of these two individuals. based upon the testimony that was given and the observations of the court, clearly you are in no position to have been driving on that particular day. The jury made a determination that you were impaired in the court. Based upon that finding, finds that you were an impaired that resulting in a third degree felony charge. The court appreciates this statements given by the victim's families in this case, clearly gave the court insight as to the impact, the terrible impact it's the actions of the defendant had on your lives and the lives of your families. You given all of that that the Senate having been found guilty at trial by a jury of

2/3 degree felonies, the court imposes a prison sentence of not to exceed five years. For each count, those sentences run consecutive to each other. The court for the class B misdemeanor of reckless driving the court imposes a jail sentence of six months at the run concurrent with the the time that she's current with the felony charges and for the infraction the court imposes a fine of \$250. With respect to the issue of restitution that's an issue that the Board of Pardons will have to take up. The court will just make note that as of today. The claim claimed restitution is 17,001 5426 which may or may go higher based upon any further expenses from the victim's families. The court gives to the defendant credit for the 786 days, that is the time that she has been incarcerated since the offense of April 9 2022. The actual prison says you shall receive ms budget will be determined by the Board of Pardons. They're on a indeterminate sentence of 05 to one consecutive, which with each other. The border partisan will make that determination as to the time actually served but you'll be safe credit for the time that you've served since your arrest. Any questions or anything I missed that



1:04:25

from the state enter the service.



1:04:29

Okay have with respect to the Buller family, the court expresses hope that you can get on with your lives and honor the your husbands and fathers and other sociation that you've had with the victims in this case and that that you'll be able to honor those individuals with your lives. In this version I would encourage you to while at the prison to take advantage of any programming that can be there to assist and help you through you have you've had medical problems and and hopefully you look better than you did that day. Hopefully that you can get your get through this and get your life back in order to as you express you want to be be able to be an honorable mother daughter and and sister. Nope that hopefully you can do that. Court will be in recess access