



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

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CHICO MAN PLEADS TO MARIJUANA GROW KILLING

A Chico man pleaded guilty today in Butte County Superior Court for shooting and killing his friend in 2019 over a monetary dispute about marijuana sales.

Dylan Andrew Glen Rice, 28, of Chico, pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in a case arising from the killing of Jacob McArthur, who was 27 years old at the time of his death.

Ramsey said the case began in December 2019 when Butte County Sheriff's detectives responded to McArthur's rural residence on Craig Access Road east of Lake Oroville. McArthur was found to have been shot multiple times inside his residence. For the next year and a half, the detectives continued to gather evidence. Finally, in July 2021, detectives determined Rice was the gunman responsible for the death of McArthur, and he was arrested for murder.

Ramsey said the sheriff's detectives learned through their investigation that Rice, who had previously worked with his friend McArthur cultivating marijuana at the Craig Access Road property as part of an illegal marijuana organization, felt he had been "short-changed" over his work. On the night of the murder, Rice lurked outside McArthur's home for some time before shooting through a living room window and hitting McArthur inside. Rice then stole approximately 100 pounds of marijuana from the house and fled.

Ramsey said as part of the plea today Rice agreed to give up the credit he has earned so far for the roughly two years he has already served in Butte County Jail while awaiting trial, so he will not get the benefit of that time applied to his sentence when he is sent to state prison.

Rice will next appear in court on April 21st, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., where he will receive a sentence of 25 years to life in prison. Rice remains in Butte County Jail with no bail.



Dylan Andrew Glen Rice