



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

PRESS RELEASE

7/17/17

**PORTERVILLE WOMAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR
MURDER**

Today in Department 19 of the Tulare County Superior Court, South County Justice Center, Judge Antonio Reyes sentenced Sheila Allen, age 28, a client and resident of the Porterville Developmental Center, to 16 years to life in prison for murdering a fellow client at the facility. On June 15, 2017, Allen pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and the special allegation of use of a deadly weapon.

In the late evening of December 17, 2013, Allen entered the room of the 36-year-old adult female victim and strangled her with the electrical cord of a DVD player. Allen then returned to her room and notified developmental center staff. Allen allegedly committed the crime to receive a new housing assignment within the facility.

The case was prosecuted by Supervising Deputy District Attorney Cindy Underwood and investigated by the Porterville Police Department.

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