

October 21 is new jury trial date for man accused of killing Paul Graupe

Written by George Browning
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A new trial date has been scheduled for Robert Lee Riley Jr., the man charged in the 2009 death of Paul Graupe of Austin.

Riley's jury trial had originally been set for April 16. It was then continued and rescheduled for July 15. On a recent motion filed by his public defender, Mary Jean Stotts, the trial has now been set for October 21 in Scott Circuit Court. Stotts requested the latest continuance because she had planned to attend a conference around that date, according to court records.

Riley is charged with one count each of murder, felony murder, removal of body from the scene and obstruction of justice as well as two counts of robbery. Graupe's body was located nearly three years after he had died in a small rental duplex on the property of Riley's parents in Austin.

Information provided by a girlfriend of Riley's, Lisa Pace, gave law enforcement officials a basis for requesting a search warrant for both the parents' home and the grounds, including the duplex. Graupe's body was recovered on November 20, 2012. He reportedly died a few days before Thanksgiving, 2009.

Pace's trial on charges of aiding a criminal, obstruction of justice, theft and failure to report body is scheduled for August 12 in Scott Circuit Court. She remains free on bond.

Her boyfriend has been incarcerated since the discovery of the body by officers with the Sheriff's Department. Prosecutor Jason Mount intends to seek a sentence for Riley of life imprisonment without possibility of parole, court records noted.

A pre-trial conference for attorneys involved in the Riley case is scheduled for July 29.