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## **ROBERT BUDA JR. PLEADS GUILTY TO TWO COUNTS OF MURDER**

Dutchess County District Attorney Anthony Parisi announced today that Robert Buda, Jr., 35, plead guilty in Dutchess County Court to two counts of Murder in the Second Degree, both Class A-1 Felonies and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C Armed Violent Felony.

District Attorney Anthony Parisi said, “Today’s guilty plea ensures that the defendant will be held fully accountable for the brutal and senseless murders of Jo-Ann and Paul Hait. While no courtroom outcome can ever repair the profound loss suffered by their family, I want to recognize their extraordinary strength and resilience throughout this process. Their resolve in the face of unimaginable tragedy has been truly remarkable, and we are grateful for the trust they placed in our office to seek justice on their behalf. I also want to commend the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office for their exceptional investigative work and unwavering commitment to this case. Their professionalism and dedication were instrumental in securing this outcome.”

The incident occurred the evening of January 26th, at 78 Marlorville Road, in the Town of Wappinger. The Defendant admitted that he intentionally killed Jo-Ann and Paul Hait, by shooting them multiple times with a firearm. The defendant also admitted that he possessed a 9-millimeter Sig Sauer P354 semi-automatic pistol with the intent to use it unlawfully against them and the possession of the firearm did not occur in his home or place of business.

The case was investigated by the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Office and is being prosecuted by Unit Chief Jennifer Fluck and Deputy Unit Chief Nick LaStella. Judge Edelman-Reyes presided over the case and his sentencing date is set for June 10, 2026. The agreed upon sentence to be imposed is 40 years to life in prison: 20 years to life on each plea to the Murder in the Second Degree to run consecutively to each other and 15 years in prison to run concurrently on the plea to the Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree.

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