

#### Rick Staly, Sheriff

#### FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: February 6, 2023
Prepared by: Carmen Fleischmann, Public Affairs Office
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Release #: 2024-24

### **CASE UPDATE: Brenan Hill Sentenced to Life in Prison**

BUNNELL, FL - During a sentencing hearing today, Brenan Hill, 34 was sentenced to life in prison, after being convicted of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder of Savannah La-Rynn Gonzalez.





Brenan was also convicted on charges of Aggravated Battery Causing Serious Bodily Injury with a Firearm, and Firing or Throwing a Deadly Missile into an Occupied Vehicle and was sentenced to 25 and 15 years respectively which will be served concurrently.

"Every decision Brenan Hill made the day he killed Savannah Gonzalez was to save his own skin," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Today justice was served, and he received the maximum penalty for callously taking another life, trying to cover it up while claiming he was driving her to the hospital, when in fact he was trying to hide the gun he used and not getting her emergency care. While no amount of justice can replace the loved one they lost, we hope Savannah's family can take some comfort knowing that he

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will be locked-up for life behind bars to forever remember what he did to her and the pain he caused. I commend our detectives and the prosecution team for putting this killer away."

Date: September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Prepared by: Maria Hernandez, Public Affairs Office Phone and Email: 386-225-1315, MHernandez@FlaglerSheriff.com

Release #: 2023-184

# Jury Finds Brenan Hill Guilty in Murder of Palm Coast Woman in 2021

Hill is Facing At Least 25 Years in Prison For 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder and Two Other Charges

BUNNELL, FL – On Friday afternoon, a six-person jury found 34-year-old Brenan Hill guilty in the shooting death of Savannah La-Rynn Gonzalez in 2021. Hill now faces at least 25 years in prison for 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder and two other charges.



Brenan Hill during booking.

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Investigative Services Division (ISD) Major Case Unit worked closely with 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit State Attorney R.J. Larizza's Office over the last two years to bring justice for Savannah and her family.

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Hill drove Savannah to a local hospital in the afternoon with a gunshot wound to her head. At the time, Hill claimed a stranger had shot her in his car but soon changed his version of events.

Within hours, FCSO's Real Time Crime Center (RTCC), deputies, ISD, and CSI worked together to disprove Hill's lies and attempt to hide the gun used in the murder of Savannah. Savannah initially survived the shooting, so Hill was arrested for attempted murder but was later indicted for murder after Savannah died in November of 2022.

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"Justice was served, and I thank the jury for seeing through the false lies and actions of the defendant. This was great policing and detective work by our team, and I commend them," said Sheriff Rick Staly. "Hill lied from the beginning to the end, but our investigative team became the voice of Savannah to get to the truth in this case. I also thank Assistant State Attorney Clark for working closely with us in getting justice for Savannah. While we can't bring Savannah back, we hope this brings some closure for her family."

Hill was convicted for 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder, Aggravated Battery Causing Serious Bodily Injury with a Firearm, and Firing Or Throwing a Deadly Missile Into an Occupied Vehicle. He is facing up to life in prison, with a minimum mandatory sentence of 25 years.

Hill is set to be sentenced on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, by Circuit Judge Terence Perkins.

If you, or anyone you know, is a victim of domestic violence, Help Is Only One Phone Call Away. Please call 911, contact our Non-Emergency phone line (386) 313-4911, or visit our website for <u>Domestic Violence resources</u> available in your area.

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