

Man Convicted in Murder of Law Professor Locked in Family Feud

The trial of two people charged with murdering a prominent Florida law professor locked in a rancorous battle with his ex-wife and in-laws ended with a guilty verdict for one defendant and a mistrial for another.

The victim, Dan Markel, 41, was a professor at the Florida State University College of Law who had helped build a network of online legal scholarship. After a divorce, he and his ex-wife, Wendi Adelson, were given joint custody of their two young sons.

The New York Times **reports** that the state had charged three people with the murder, hoping to pressure them into revealing whoever may have financed the crime, according to *Times* reporter **Patricia Mazzei**.

The Tallahassee jury found Sigfredo Garcia guilty of first-degree murder but was unable to reach a verdict for defendant Katherine Magbanua.

Prosecutors argued that Markel was murdered because a court order prevented his ex-wife from relocating to South Florida with their children. They said her brother and mother then got involved, and arranged to pay the alleged killers \$100,000 for the murder.

None of the former in-laws have been charged, and through their lawyers they have maintained their innocence.

Read the *NY Times* article.

