

Transgender killer draws life sentence

by UPI

DENVER -- A Colorado man who admitted to killing his date when he discovered the person was a male has been sentenced to life in prison without parole, authorities said.

A jury in Denver deliberated for only two hours Wednesday before convicting Allen Ray Andrade, 32, of first-degree murder and a hate crime in the bludgeoning death of Angie Zapata, 18, of Greeley, Colo., the Los Angeles Times said.

Zapata, a transsexual, met Andrade, a convicted felon from Thornton, Colo., on a social-networking Web site in July, the arrest report said. While on a July 16 date, Andrade told police, he beat Zapata to death with a fire extinguisher when he discovered Zapata was a man, the report said.

Gay, lesbian and transsexual groups hailed the jury's decision. Colorado is one of 11 states with hate-crime laws that protect transgendered people.

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