



# Sharen Wilson Criminal District Attorney



## For Immediate Release

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Wednesday, June 30, 2021

## Statement about the execution of John Hummel

(Fort Worth, TX) – Tonight, we remember Joy Hummel, who was 15-weeks pregnant, along with her father, Clyde Bedford, and her 5-year-old daughter, Jodi.

They all died at the hands of John Hummel – husband to Joy and father of Jodi – on December 17, 2009 at their Kennedale home.

That's the night John Hummel tried to slash his pregnant wife's throat. The kitchen knife was too dull, and she fought back, so he grabbed a nearby aluminum baseball bat and repeatedly hit Joy in the head with it. When she fell to the floor, he grabbed decorative swords and a dagger and stabbed her 35 times, killing her and their unborn daughter.

Then he went to where his disabled father-in-law, Clyde, was sleeping and bludgeoned him to death with the bat. Finally he went to the bedroom of his own daughter, Jodi. He used the bat to repeatedly hit her in the face and head, killing her. Clyde and Jodi were beaten so badly that they could only be identified through DNA testing.

John Hummel set the house on fire and left.

"The death penalty is – and should be – reserved for the worst crimes," Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson said. "John Hummel's actions were unconscionable."

"Our thoughts and sympathy are with the family and friends of the victims."

Convicted of capital murder on June 22, 2011, Hummel asked for life in prison based in part on his prior military service and his claim to suffer from PTSD. The jury rejected that plea after hearing evidence Hummel never served in combat and suffered no trauma while stationed in Oceanside, California.

The jury sentenced him to death by lethal injection.

