



# Sharen Wilson Criminal District Attorney



## For Immediate Release

Contact: Anna Tinsley Williams, Communications Officer  
atwilliams@tarrantcountytexas.gov  
(817) 884-3120(w); (682) 299-8079 (cell)

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

## Stephen Barbee execution

(Fort Worth, TX) – Tonight we remember Lisa Underwood, who was seven months pregnant with her unborn daughter, and her 7-year-old son Jayden. They were murdered by Stephen Barbee on February 19, 2005.

Barbee, a former boyfriend to Lisa, went to Lisa's home because he was worried Lisa would ruin his new marriage by claiming he was the father of her unborn child. He said she kicked him in the leg and he hit her in the face, causing her nose to bleed. Ultimately, he said he held her face into the carpet until she stopped breathing, according to a confession he gave police that he later recanted.

When Jayden ran into the room, crying, screaming and fighting to help his mom, Barbee put his hand over Jayden's mouth and nose and held it there until he stopped breathing.

Barbee told investigators he put the pregnant body of Lisa, 34, and the body of Jayden into Lisa's SUV and drove to a road in rural Denton County. He dug a shallow grave where he put their bodies. He later directed police to where the bodies were buried.

DNA tests later showed Barbee was not the baby's father.

Barbee, 55, has been on death row since February 2006.

"The death penalty is reserved for the worst crimes. This is one of them," Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson said. "What kind of person suffocates a pregnant woman and her 7-year-old son? One who deserves the death penalty."

"Our sympathy tonight is with the family and friends of Lisa and Jayden. We pray that they have peace."

Assistant Criminal District Attorney Steven Conder has handled this case post-conviction since 2007.

"Stephen Barbee's case has been thoroughly reviewed by the state and federal courts," Conder said. "There is no doubt as to his guilt, as he confessed to his former wife and law enforcement at the police station."