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**COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY STEVE DESCANO ANNOUNCES  
MEGAN HARGAN CONVICTED OF MURDER IN RETRIAL**

Fairfax County, VA — Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano announced today that a jury convicted Megan Hargan, 40, of first-degree murder for the 2017 killings of her mother, Pamela, and younger sister, Helen. The jury also found Hargan guilty of two counts of using a firearm in commission of a felony.

On the afternoon of July 14, 2017, Hargan shot Pamela, 63, and Helen, 24, in Pamela's McLean home where the three were living at the time, along with Hargan's then-8-year-old daughter. Hargan staged the house as a murder-suicide and claimed that younger sister Helen had killed their mom before killing herself.

Evidence presented at trial showed that the conflict stemmed from a financial dispute: Megan, who was buying a house for her family, resented that her mother, Pamela, wasn't helping her financially but was at the same time helping her sister Helen to buy a house. On July 13, the day before the killings, Megan attempted to transfer upwards of \$400,000 from her mother's bank account to pay for Megan's new house, which was closing that day. The transaction was flagged as fraud, and the next day Megan shot her mother before attempting to make the same wire transfer again from her mother's account. She then shot her sister Helen, who was upstairs. Both family members were killed by a .22 rifle, which belonged to Megan's husband and was being stored in the McLean house temporarily.

"Pamela and Helen were loved by many, and their deaths in 2017 tore this community apart, with the added shock and horror of being killed in their own home by a family member," CA Descano said. "When the first conviction was vacated, I promised that my office would continue to fight for justice for the Hargan family and for the community, and today we have obtained that outcome. Today's guilty verdict has been a long time coming, and I hope the Pam and Helen's loved ones will be able to take one step closer to healing."

"I want to express my gratitude to Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys Kelsey Gill and Eric Clingan for their work on this case."

Hargan's case originally went to trial in November 2022; that conviction was vacated due to juror misconduct. Hargan will be sentenced on January 26, 2024, and faces up to life in prison for the two murder charges.

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