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**(Neb.) - Scottsbluff man gets life sentence for murder**

By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/16/2012 11:55 AM

GERING, Neb. (AP) - A Scottsbluff man has been given life in prison for first-degree murder.

Daniel Morgan was sentenced on Monday by Scotts Bluff County District Court Judge Randy Lippstreu. Morgan was convicted in March of killing Dominic Marquez on May 13 last year.

County Attorney Doug Warner had said the shooting didn't qualify for the death penalty, so Morgan's sentencing was a formality.

Morgan had said he just wanted to confront Marquez because Morgan's girlfriend, the mother of Marquez's child, had been harassed and threatened by friends of Marquez.

Prosecutors say Morgan was armed when he drove to Marquez's home and had sent text messages that said he was "going after" Marquez.

Police recovered 34 shell casings at the scene.

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