

# BARDSLEY & CARLOS LLP

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## News and Media

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**Woman convicted in love-triangle murder** A former telemarketer for a Miramar dating service was convicted yesterday of helping her jealous boyfriend kill her boss hours after she slept with the boss on a date.

A San Diego Superior Court jury took about two hours to convict Ny Nourn of murder. Nourn, 22, a 1999 graduate of Mira Mesa High School, faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole.

The jury's verdict ended a one-week trial during which a prosecutor argued that Nourn helped lure her boss, David Stevens, 38, to his death at the behest of her irate boyfriend, who found out Nourn had sex with Stevens earlier that night.

Stevens was Nourn's supervisor at a dating service called The Perfect Match. He was shot to death Dec. 23, 1998. His body was found inside his car, which had been abandoned and set on fire on a La Jolla street.

The crime went unsolved until last year, when Nourn came forward with information about the killing, telling police her boyfriend had been threatening her.

Her boyfriend, Ronald Barker – a 38-year-old Escondido auto mechanic who met Nourn over the Internet while his wife was pregnant with their second child – was convicted of murder at a separate trial earlier this month. He also faces a sentence of life without parole.

"I'm deeply relieved for the Stevens family that both of the people responsible for David Stevens' death have been held responsible by juries," prosecutor Chandra Carle said after yesterday's verdict.

At trial, Carle argued that Nourn agreed to help kill Stevens as a means of appeasing Barker, who was waiting at her house when she returned from her date with Stevens and demanded to know where she had been. The couple went to Barker's house and got a gun before driving to Stevens' apartment in Pacific Beach later that night.

Nourn's attorney, Bruce Cormicle, said he was disappointed with the verdict. Cormicle argued at trial that Nourn had no idea her boyfriend planned to kill Stevens. Stevens was killed after Nourn lured him out of his apartment by telling him she had car trouble.

"She never intended that Mr. Stevens be killed," Cormicle said. "This was the act of a madman completely independent of Ny Nourn."

He called his client "an innocent, abused individual – abused by Mr. Barker and abused by the system."

Superior Court Judge Frederic Link scheduled sentencing for March 6.