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Death penalty to be sought in murder

Prosecutors will seek the death penalty for a Pittsburgh man charged with killing an 82-year-old woman inside her home during a robbery and sexual assault.

Crawford County District Attorney Francis Schultz said there are enough aggravating circumstances in the 2002 death of Mildred Hauser to warrant seeking the death penalty against Patrick Thomas Ramsey, 35, whose last known address was Observatory Hill.

Officials found Hauser's body Labor Day weekend in her home near Conneaut Lake after her brother reported that he could not reach her by phone. An autopsy found that she died from a cloth that had been shoved into her mouth and throat, and she had also been sexually assaulted.

When Ramsey was arrested by Allegheny County Sheriff's Deputies five days later at Ross Park Mall for a parole violation, he was carrying three gold rings stolen from Hauser's home. Troopers said he told them he had also used her credit cards and car.