

Scott Evans Dekraai Sued by Families of Two of the Eight People He Allegedly Murdered

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If lawsuits were assholes, **Scott Evans Dekraai** would have two of them. Friday, the Seal Beach massacre suspect was sued for wrongful death by the parents of his slain ex-wife, **Michelle Fournier**, and grandparents of their 8-year-old son.

Monday, the troubled man authorities say confessed to the rampage was sued for wrongful death by the husband and three children of murder victim **Christy Lynn Wilson**.



Facebook
Michelle Fournier

Fournier, a 48-year-old hair stylist at Salon Meritage, was said by authorities to be the first of eight murder victims blamed on Dekraai. Wilson, who was getting her hair done by her friend and co-worker Fournier, was the second.

Fournier's parents, **Joseph and Geri Burke**, have asked the media in their home of Batavia, Wyoming, **to respect their privacy**. But they go public in the lawsuit filed in Orange County Superior Court by their Santa Ana-based attorney **Eric V. Traut**. It seeks money from Dekraai for the cost of her funeral, the support of her son, **Dominic**, and the loss of Fournier's "love, companionship, comfort [and] affection."

"The consequences of (Dekraai's) cowardly rampage have devastated many families and friends and left his own 8-year-old son an orphan," reads the complaint. "District Attorney **Tony Rackauckas** will seek the death penalty. If any case justifies the execution of another human being, it is this one."

Filed by Santa Ana attorneys **Edward Susolik** and **Sarah Serpa** of Callahan & Blaine, the Wilson family's wrongful death suit alleges that Dekraai "wrongfully, carelessly, recklessly, wantonly and unlawfully used a gun to shoot and kill Christy Lynn Wilson, a long-time salon employee." It seeks payment for the 47-year-old's hospital and funeral expenses and the loss of her "love, care, companionship."



Christy Lynn

Noting that Wilson lived for a short time after she was shot, the lawsuit also seeks punitive and exemplary damages "to punish Scott Dekraai and hold him accountable for what the attorneys describe as 'a detestable and senseless crime.'"

"We cannot change the horrendous circumstances of what happened that day," Susolik says in a statement. "However, we can hold Scott Dekraai accountable with this legal process and hope that by doing so, justice will be served for this family and the families of the other victims."

The statement also includes these words from Paul Wilson: "My kids no longer have a mother. I no Wilson longer have a wife, best friend and soul mate. We were married for 24 years and she was our world. My life and my kids' lives will never be the same. Somebody must be accountable and answer for that."

The attorneys for the families of the deceased believe Dekraai has assets that could be used to pay any judgments against him, citing his Huntington Beach home, a Seal Beach condo and home, Seal Beach property he inherited from his grandfather and disability income from a tugboat accident several years ago.

Though both shared custody of their son, Dekraai and Fournier were embroiled in a long, bitter custody battle for him. Both had sought to reduce the amount of time the boy spent with the other parent.

Seal Beach police last week released the affidavit used to search Dekraai's home after the killing spree. He is said to have confessed to a detective after his arrest that he sat on the sand at Bolsa Chica State Beach on the morning of the Oct. 12 massacre and pondered killing Fournier. He admitted to going on to arm himself with handguns, extra magazines and ammunition before driving to Salon Meritage, immediately walking up to his ex- and shooting her multiple times, according to court document.

Dekraai is said to have told the police officer who arrested him, "I know what I did."