

State of Idaho v. Jessie James O'Malley Case Awaits Jury Verdict

Boise, ID – March 12, 2025

Burley Resident Jessie James O'Malley awaits a verdict for crimes committed nearly 8 years ago. In a Cassia County trial held this afternoon, Jessie O'Malley is being prosecuted by the State of Idaho on account of aiding and abetting in the murder of Declan O'Malley in the first degree.

Jessie O'Malley, the defendant, is a practicing attorney in Burley, Idaho. He graduated from Yale Law School and had moved from Connecticut back to Idaho where he had grown up. The reason for this moving back would be because of student debt, and Burley seemed the best place to return, as his family had lived there as well. There he lived on the O'Malley farm, along with siblings Declan, Tully, and his mother Maeve O'Malley. Not long after he had moved in, Maeve O'Malley had unfortunately passed away. With her passing, in her wake was left the \$12 million dollar estate of the O'Malleys. With this sum of money, Maeve had originally planned for the executor of the estate to be in Jessie's name. However, Declan O'Malley felt differently. Before Maeve had passed, she changed the executor to Declan. Tully O'Malley, sister of both Declan and Jessie, testified that "Declan wanted to keep the farm but Jess wanted to sell it. Jess needed the money." With this, the dispute between the two began. Jessie had testified, "We would not speak without an attorney present regarding the estate."

The night of November 25, 2017, Jessie and Declan had agreed to try and settle the issue of the estate. However, this issue would not be settled because Declan O'Malley was found dead the next morning. Declan had been found with a gun wound in his left shoulder, and what ultimately killed him was a broken neck, as he had fallen out of his two-story window. Unfortunately, at the time the case was opened, there was no evidence linking a culprit to the

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scene, and it was declared cold in 2021. However, the case was reopened in 2023, after Jessie's former coworker Mystic Garcia pled guilty to the murder of Declan O'Malley after being offered a plea deal. She confessed to shooting and eventually pushing Declan out of his window and ultimately causing his death. Although with Mystic's confession to the crime, there was still no evidence linking Jessie to the scene, as stated by Samir Slade, a former detective who was the first officer to arrive on the scene of Declan's death.

However, Rowan McGee, reporter and close friend of Declan, received information that linked Jessie to the case, and then submitted it to the Burley Police Department, where they began the investigation of Jessie O'Malley. Detective Francis Magumbo, who was assigned this reopened case, received Rowan's tip, depicting bitcoin transactions from an art company named "Le Finest Works D'Art" to Mystic Garcia, in payments of \$12,500 incrementally over several months. These payments would eventually add up to \$150,000 dollars. Garcia testified that "Jessie would deposit money into my bank account from the bitcoin transactions." Jessie had been linked to these transactions because of his name on the receipts from the art brokerage. Garcia, along with the transactions, stated that Jessie paid her that \$150,000 to kill Declan. "I needed it. I thought of my daughter and I just took it."

With testimonies from witnesses, the jury still has yet to decide whether to declare Jessie O'Malley guilty or not guilty. As tension rose between the State and Defense, Prosecution argues that O'Malley without a doubt aided and abetted in the murder of Declan O'Malley because he may have wanted the estate money to pay off his debt. Defense argues that O'Malley did not aid and abet in the murder of Declan O'Malley, and it was simply a matter of family disputes; stated by the defense, "Family quarrels do not mean death", and the betrayal of his coworker, Mystic Garcia. Reports will continue as the jury discusses.