

## News Channel 25

<http://www.kxxv.com/story/25893200/waco-woman-found-guilty-of-capital-murder-sentenced-to-life-behind-bars>

### **Waco woman sentenced to life for murder gets 20 years for assault**

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By John Elizondo

WACO -

UPDATE: A woman sentenced to life in prison without parole for the 2008 murder of her mother, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for an aggravated assault during the same case.

A judge sentenced Yalanda Renee Lind to 20 years TDC for the aggravated assault of her mother's boyfriend. She was automatically sentenced to life without parole on Friday, June 27, after a McLennan County jury found her guilty for the murder of her mother.

A McLennan County jury has found a Waco woman guilty of capital murder, and a judge has automatically sentenced her to life in prison without parole.

Yalanda Lind was convicted just after 9 p.m. Friday evening, after the jury spent more than six and half hours deliberating. The jury believes she helped convicted killer Jeremy Lowery kill her mother, Rebecca Leonard, back in 2008.

Lind could be heard arguing with her attorneys after the verdict was read. She told them "Why didn't [Lowery] finish me off that night. I wouldn't have to deal with this. I didn't do anything."

Before deliberations started, Lind took the stand herself. Lind spoke for three hours, and repeatedly denied that she killed her mother. She took most of the morning recapping what life was like before and after the gruesome attack. Lind was reduced to tears as the defense asked her to describe the night of the murder.

Lind said Lowery initially tried to suffocate her in her bed, and she then wrestled him to the ground. She said her mother came from her room to see what was going on, that is when Lowery violently attacked her. Lind said Lowery ran into her mother's bedroom and then attacked Leonard's boyfriend, Jerry Patterson.

Lind described the home as a scene out of a horror film, because of all the blood on the floor and walls. Lind said despite all the blood, she never saw a knife during the attack.

The defense asked Lind about accusation made by other witnesses, and she claimed that most of the two days of testimony were lies. The state asked her if she killed her mother, even after the jury saw all the evidence, and she began to cry.

Lind exclaimed, "It tears me up what happened. It should have been me!"

The state and defense both provided closing arguments. The defense asked the jury to consider all the evidence and to not make any assumptions. But the prosecution insisted that all the evidence was conclusive and anyone could make a reasonable conclusion about what happened.

Lind will serve life in prison without parole.