

Moore police officer sentenced for hitting, killing high school student in December 2019

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June 30, 2021

Dillon Richards



NORMAN, Okla. —

A Moore police officer will spend almost a decade in prison for crashing into and killing a high school student in late 2019.

Sgt. Kyle Lloyd was off duty when he hit a car driven by Emily Gaines on Dec. 14, 2019, near Southeast 134th Street and Sooner Road in Oklahoma City. Gaines, a Moore High School senior, was on her way to take the ACT when she was hit.

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Lloyd formally pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter and was sentenced Wednesday to 18 years, but he will effectively spend nine years in prison.

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NEW: Kyle Lloyd is sentenced to effectively nine years in prison for crash that killed high school senior

— Dillon Richards (@dillonjrichards) June 30, 2021

The prosecutor said Lloyd was driving almost 100 mph when he crashed into Gaines' car, saying he was speeding to pick up keys to a squad car for a "Shop with a Cop" event. She said this was a "deliberate, conscious choice to disregard the law," adding that it brings her no joy to prosecute a member of law enforcement – but the law is the law.

Lloyd also spoke to the judge and apologized to Gaines' family for what he did. He also said he wanted to set up a scholarship in Gaines' name.

"Every day for the rest of my life, I will live with my decisions that morning and my responsibility for taking a life so senselessly from this world," Lloyd said.

The defense asked the judge for a sentence that would have Lloyd avoid jail time, and the state wanted a total of 18 years to symbolize how old Gaines was when she was killed.

The sentence comes about a week after a jury recommended that Max Townsend spend life in prison for hitting a group of Moore High School cross-country runners on Feb. 3, 2020, killing three.

Moore Police Department officials also released a statement regarding Lloyd's sentence.

"The Moore Police Department feels for everyone involved in the tragic event that resulted in the death of Moore High School senior Emily Gaines. The legal proceedings of June 30, 2021, have allowed us to initiate an internal investigation. The process of conducting internal investigations is outlined in the collective union bargaining agreement between the City of Moore and the police union. Those guidelines are being followed in this incident."