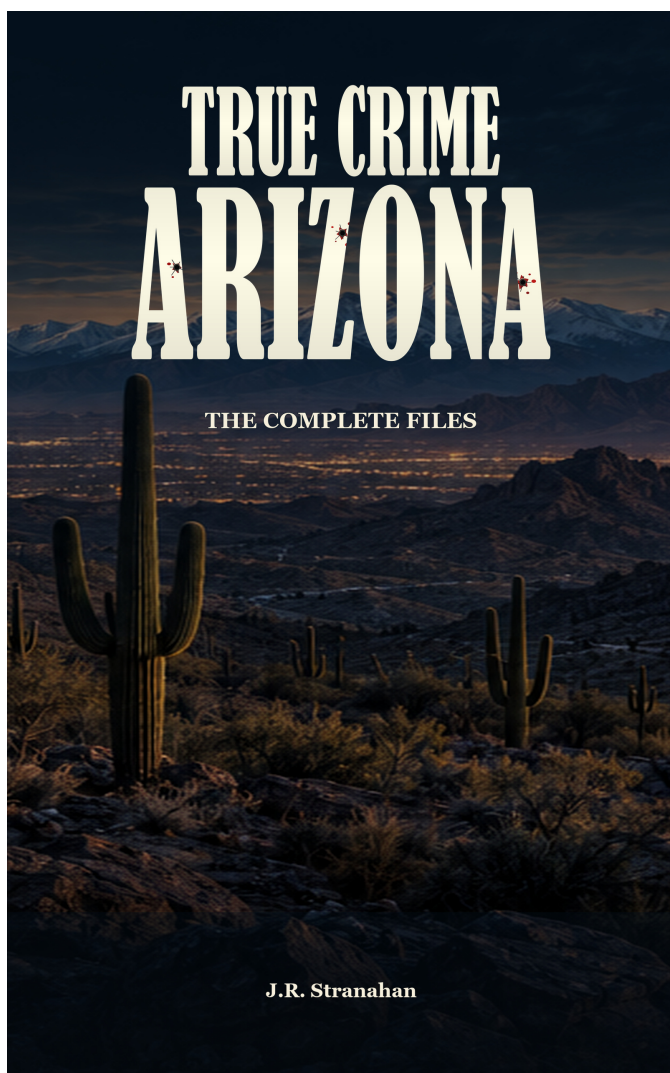


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File 1: The Winnie Ruth Judd Prosecution

Place and period: Phoenix, 1931-1971

Present legal status: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

This file belongs first to Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community. The public record is necessarily organized around investigation and adjudication, but a criminal case is not the measure of a life. The account uses the available record to describe what happened and how institutions responded, while avoiding invented biography where sources are silent.

The human scale

Agnes Anne LeRoi and Hedvig Samuelson were killed in a Phoenix residence in October 1931. That fact is the fixed point for this portion of The Winnie Ruth Judd Prosecution. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. In Phoenix, later retellings sometimes collapse the investigation and the judgment into one continuous story. The public record does not. It preserves the order in which information appeared and the forum in which it was tested. The present legal posture is stated separately: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

For Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community, the procedural vocabulary cannot be allowed to eclipse consequence. Their remains were transported by rail in trunks and luggage that investigators connected to Judd. The detail belongs here because it changes the chronology, not because it supplies atmosphere. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. Keeping that boundary visible lets the reader understand both the institutional response and the loss that made the response necessary.

The 1931-1971 record from Phoenix contains a point that resists shorthand: The prosecution tried Judd for LeRoi's murder rather than combining both deaths in one judgment. The present legal posture is equally specific: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. One proposition may be established while a neighboring proposition remains disputed. Treating them separately is not hesitation; it is accurate reporting.

A headline can make this episode appear settled in a sentence. The underlying record is narrower. A Maricopa County jury returned a first-degree murder verdict and fixed punishment at death. From there, the inquiry moves through source, timing, corroboration, and legal consequence. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. None of those steps authorizes invented dialogue or a claim about what Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community privately thought.

Location matters in this file. Phoenix determined which agencies, courts, and communities carried the case, while 1931-1971 marks the span over which the public learned it. The Arizona Supreme Court affirmed

the judgment in 1932 while addressing insanity instructions and the limits of a self-defense instruction. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. The result is a chronology with identifiable custodians rather than a collection of free-floating claims.

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: Competency findings prevented the execution from being carried out and led to long confinement in the state hospital system. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

The case file gives different kinds of information different weight. Judd escaped custody several times, and those episodes became part of the public record without changing the scope of the murder judgment. A contemporaneous observation, a laboratory result, a charging allegation, and an appellate finding do not perform the same job. The account keeps the people harmed, the routines interrupted, and the community consequences in view. Describing those jobs plainly is especially important when the story concerns Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community.

The first account

By the time The Winnie Ruth Judd Prosecution reached public memory, sequence had become easy to lose. A Maricopa County jury returned a first-degree murder verdict and fixed punishment at death. Restoring sequence shows what investigators knew, what prosecutors alleged, what the defense contested, and what a court or jury ultimately resolved. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. An older headline cannot replace the current status: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

There is no need to enlarge the evidence to make this file serious. The Arizona Supreme Court affirmed the judgment in 1932 while addressing insanity instructions and the limits of a self-defense instruction. That proposition is consequential on its own. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. The account therefore avoids borrowing certainty from unrelated defendants, other jurisdictions, or later cases that happen to resemble events in Phoenix.

The public record speaks most reliably when attribution travels with the claim. Here is the supported proposition: Competency findings prevented the execution from being carried out and led to long confinement in the state hospital system. The source may recount an allegation, summarize trial proof, or state a judgment, and the language must match that function. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. That practice protects the accuracy of the case and the dignity of Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community at the same time.

At this stage of the file, absence is also information. The available materials establish this much: Judd escaped custody several times, and those episodes became part of the public record without changing the scope of the murder judgment. They do not establish every rumor that accumulated during 1931-1971. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. Refusing to bridge those gaps with speculation keeps the unresolved portions visible instead of disguising them as narrative momentum.

Consider the detail in its proper scale: Later clemency and pardon decisions altered punishment and legal disabilities but did not create a trial judgment for Samuelson's death. It is neither disposable nor self-executing. Its force depends on where it sits among the other records from Phoenix. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. A measured account can explain that relationship without turning legal caution into a repetitive disclaimer.

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overlap, but they are not interchangeable. What witnesses reported at the time remains separate from what investigators later inferred. Reading across them carefully prevents a later summary from erasing an earlier uncertainty or a later reversal.

Building a chronology

The most useful context is the context that changes interpretation. Judd escaped custody several times, and those episodes became part of the public record without changing the scope of the murder judgment. In the Phoenix record, that detail helps explain why a particular investigative or legal step followed. Dates and sequence preserve the difference between early uncertainty and later knowledge. General crime lore would add volume but not understanding, so it is left outside the account.

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Physical evidence

This part of the account begins with a modest question: what did the cited source actually establish? Its answer is plain: Their remains were transported by rail in trunks and luggage that investigators connected to Judd. The answer does not automatically prove motive, identity, or every charge in the case. An item's evidentiary value depends on collection, testing, context, and the limits of what it can prove. The remaining status is stated without embellishment: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

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Witness evidence

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Digital and documentary trails

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Charging choices

By the time The Winnie Ruth Judd Prosecution reached public memory, sequence had become easy to lose. The prosecution tried Judd for LeRoi's murder rather than combining both deaths in one judgment. Restoring sequence shows what investigators knew, what prosecutors alleged, what the defense contested, and what a court or jury ultimately resolved. An indictment states allegations, while a plea or verdict resolves only the counts and defendants actually adjudicated. An older headline cannot replace the current status: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

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The courtroom

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Appeal and review

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Uncertainty

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At this stage of the file, absence is also information. The available materials establish this much: The Arizona Supreme Court affirmed the judgment in 1932 while addressing insanity instructions and the limits of a self-defense instruction. They do not establish every rumor that accumulated during 1931-1971. The account marks gaps in the record instead of filling them with motive, dialogue, or private thought. Refusing to bridge those gaps with speculation keeps the unresolved portions visible instead of disguising them as narrative momentum.

Consider the detail in its proper scale: Competency findings prevented the execution from being carried out and led to long confinement in the state hospital system. It is neither disposable nor self-executing. Its force depends on where it sits among the other records from Phoenix. The account marks gaps in the record instead of filling them with motive, dialogue, or private thought. A measured account can explain that relationship without turning legal caution into a repetitive disclaimer.

The language of this chapter changes when the legal posture changes. Judd escaped custody several times, and those episodes became part of the public record without changing the scope of the murder judgment. If the proposition came from an accusation, it remains attributed; if it survived adjudication, the judgment is named; if review altered the result, the alteration is carried forward. The account marks gaps in the record instead of filling them with motive, dialogue, or private thought.

The controlling endpoint is recorded separately: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death.

What happened to Agnes Anne LeRoi, Hedvig Samuelson, their families, Winnie Ruth Judd, and the Phoenix community generated records made for different audiences: investigators, lawyers, judges, jurors, officials, and the public. Later clemency and pardon decisions altered punishment and legal disabilities but did not create a trial judgment for Samuelson's death. Those records overlap, but they are not interchangeable. The account marks gaps in the record instead of filling them with motive, dialogue, or private thought. Reading across them carefully prevents a later summary from erasing an earlier uncertainty or a later reversal.

The most useful context is the context that changes interpretation. Agnes Anne LeRoi and Hedvig Samuelson were killed in a Phoenix residence in October 1931. In the Phoenix record, that detail helps explain why a particular investigative or legal step followed. The account marks gaps in the record instead of filling them with motive, dialogue, or private thought. General crime lore would add volume but not understanding, so it is left outside the account.

Status at manuscript lock

The controlling status for this account is: Winnie Ruth Judd was convicted of the first-degree murder of Agnes Anne LeRoi and sentenced to death. The sentence was stayed after she was found mentally incompetent, and she spent decades in state custody before receiving parole and later an unconditional pardon. She was not tried for Hedvig Samuelson's death. That sentence is deliberately narrower than a television summary. It does not merge co-defendants, convert accusations into findings, or imply that an appeal erased a human death. Later proceedings may change the legal posture, but they should not be projected backward onto the record described here.

Sources from the edition

The Winnie Ruth Judd Prosecution

- Arizona Supreme Court, Judd v. State:

<https://openjurist.org/41/ariz/176/judd-v-state> - Arizona Memory Project, Winnie Ruth Judd archival collection:

<https://azmemory.azlibrary.gov/nodes/view/412?showbacklinknav=411> - Arizona Judicial Branch historical cases materials: <https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/0/2/EDSERV/DLU/BCAST/AZHC-DQs-OKBisbeeJudd.pdf>

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