

*No. 17 Circuit*  
*May 22nd 1927*  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR

FREDERICK COUNTY

STATE OF MARYLAND

VS.

WILLIAM H. ROSS

*Suggestion and Affidavit  
for removal*

*Filed June 21, 1927*  
*Court order*  
*Filed June 22, 1927*

DAVIS & EVANS  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

STATE OF MARYLAND

*No. 19 Criminals*  
*May Term 1927*  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

VS.

FOR

WILLIAM H. ROSS  
indicted for

FREDERICK COUNTY

*Murder*

SUGGESTION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR REMOVAL

The defendant in this case suggests; that he believes that he cannot have a fair and impartial trial in this Court and prays the Court to order and direct the removal of the record of proceedings in his case to some other Court having jurisdiction in such cases for trial.

*attest*  
*J. Stearns Davis atty*

*his*  
*William H. Ross*  
*made*

On this *21<sup>st</sup>* day of June, 1927 appears in Court the defendant in the above case and makes oath in due form of law that the matters and things contained in the above suggestion are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

*Eli H. Haugh*  
Clerk, Circuit Court for Frederick  
County.

*(Filed June 21, 1927)*

STATE OF MARYLAND

:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

VS.

:

FOR

WILLIAM H. <sup>curry</sup>ROSS, alias Kelly  
indicted for Murder

:

FREDERICK COUNTY

It is hereby ordered that the record of proceedings  
in this case be transmitted to the Circuit Court for *Washington*  
County for trial.

*Dated June 22, 1927.* *Hammond Green*  
*Gleason H. Northington*

*(Filed June 22, 1927)*

Court order concerning  
William Henry Ross  
charged with Murder  
of Lattie L. McElfresh

Filed June 13. 1927



State of Maryland  
Frederick County, to wit  
In the Circuit Court for  
Frederick County.

It having been represented to the  
Court by State's Attorney William  
M. Dorton and by the Sheriff  
of the County, Wm. C. Hoderick,  
that a murder had been com-  
mitted within the County on this  
13<sup>th</sup> day of June 1927, the person  
murdered being ~~the~~ woman,  
the wife of Dorsey McCord, named  
Lottie L. McCord, and it being  
further represented by the said  
Officials of the County that the  
man arrested charged with  
the crime, <sup>Wm. Henry Rose</sup> ~~that~~ confessed his  
guilt; and further that there  
exists great indignation in  
the Community where the  
crime was committed  
and there being threats of  
violence against the prison-  
er, William Henry Rose, now  
in the custody of the said Sher-  
iff, and the Sheriff being  
in reasonable apprehension

view that a mob might attack  
the jail of Frederick County  
in the attempt to rescue the  
prisoners and deal with  
him in a summary way

It is therefore ~~ordered~~ order  
ed by the Court this 13<sup>th</sup> day  
of June 1927 that the Sheriff  
of this county, Wm C Roder  
ick, transfer the said  
prisoner, accused of  
Murder, William Henry  
Ross, to the custody of the  
Warden of the Baltimore  
City Jail, and the Warden  
of said jail is hereby  
requested to receive the body  
of <sup>of</sup> Ross and him safe  
keep, ~~subject to the future~~  
~~order of this Court~~, at the  
expense of Frederick County,  
subject to the future order  
of this Court.

Glenn H. Worthington

Filed June 13, 1927

no. 196 <sup>minutes</sup>  
<sup>May 1927</sup>  
Court order concerning  
William Henry Ross  
Alia Kelly

Filed June 20, 1927



Ordered by the Circuit Court  
for Frederick County this 20<sup>th</sup> day  
of June, A.D. 1927, that the Warden of  
the Baltimore City Jail is hereby  
authorized and requested to  
deliver William Henry Rose, alias  
Kelly, to the Sheriff of Frederick  
County, to be brought to said Court  
for arraignment on an indictment,  
therein returned against said  
prisoner.

Harmon D. Brown



NO.

1

PRESENTMENTS.

MAY TERM, 1927.

STATE OF MARYLAND

VS.

WILLIAM HENRY ROSS  
ALIAS KELLY

*Filed June 20, 1927*

*cautious  
Joseph M. Powell  
Joseph M. Powell*

STATE OF MARYLAND, FREDERICK COUNTY, TO-WIT:-

The Grand Jurors of the State of Maryland, for the body of Frederick County, on their oaths and affirmations do present that William Henry Ross, alias Kelly, late of the said County, on the Thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Seven, with force and arms at the County aforesaid, feloniously, wilfully and of deliberately premeditated malice aforethought, did kill and murder Lottie McElfresh, Upon the information of Dorsey McElfresh and William Rodenick.

Witness

Dorsey McElfresh  
William Rodenick

*David O. Metz*  
FOREMAN

NO. 19  
MAY TERM, 1927

Criminal

STATE OF MARYLAND,

VS.

MURDER  
WILLIAM HENRY ROSS  
ALIAS KELLY

TRUE BILL

Daniel O. Fitz  
FOREMAN

Returned filed June 20, 1927

"Not Guilty"

"Prison remain Guilty"  
Trial by Court

2 Copies Made

STATE OF MARYLAND, FREDERICK COUNTY, TO-WIT:-

The Grand Jurors of the State of Maryland, for the body of Frederick County, on their oaths and affirmation, do present that William Henry Ross, alias Kelly, late of the said County, on the Thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Seven, with force and arms at the County aforesaid, feloniously, wilfully and of deliberately premeditated malice aforethought, did kill and murder Lottie McElfresh, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly, in such case made and provided, and against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

*William C. Storm*

THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR FREDERICK  
COUNTY.



No. 19 Criminals  
May Term 1927

Court's order to return  
William Henry Ross, alias  
Kelly to the custody of the  
Warden of the Baltimore City  
Jail

Filed June 21, 1927

Ordered by The Circuit Court  
for Frederick County this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
June A. D. 1927, That the Sheriff of Frederick  
County return William Henry Rose,  
alias Kelly, to the custody of the Warden  
of the Baltimore City Jail and the  
said Warden is hereby requested  
to receive and safely keep the said  
prisoner subject to the further order  
of this Court.

Hammond Bruce

No. 19 Criminals  
May Term 1927

Order of Court  
authorizing the  
Sheriff of Frederick  
County to transfer  
William Henry  
Ross alias Kelly  
from the Baltimore  
city jail to the  
jail of Washington  
County, and to  
produce the said  
Ross alias Kelly  
before the judges of  
the Circuit Court  
for Washington County  
at 10 a.m. on Tuesday  
July 12, 1927, in time for  
his trial before said  
Court at the time  
above mentioned

Filed July 11, 1927

State of Maryland, Frederick County, to-wit  
In the Circuit Court for Frederick County  
State } No. 19 Criminals  
          } May Term 1927  
          }   
William Henry Ross }  
alias Kelly. }

Order of Court.

Ordered by the Court this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July  
1927 that Wm. C. Roderick, the Sheriff  
of Frederick County, produce  
before the Circuit Court for  
Washington County, in time for the  
trial of the accused on July 12  
1927 at the hour of 10 o'clock,  
A. M., the body of William Henry Ross  
alias Kelly, now held for safe keeping  
by the warden of the Baltimore city  
jail under an order from this  
Court; and this order shall be au-  
thority to the said Sheriff to transfer  
the said William Henry Ross alias  
Kelly, from the Baltimore city jail  
to the jail of Washington County forth-  
with, so that he may be produced be-  
fore the judges of the Circuit Court for  
said Washington County at the hour  
and day set for his trial in said Court,  
to-wit: At the hour of 10 o'clock a.m. on July 12

1927.  
Filed July 11, 1927

Glenn H. Worthington



NO. 29 CRIM. TLS. MAY T. 1927

*No. 19 Criminal May Term 1927  
(Frederick County)*

DOCKET ENTRIES

(Copy)

*Filed July 15, 1927*

STATE OF MARYLAND

Vs.

WILLIAM HENRY ROSS  
Alias Kelly

NO. 29 CRIMINAL TRIALS

MAY TERM, 1927

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

DOCKET ENTRIES.

Record from Frederick County filed June 27, 1927.

Presentment & Indictment for Murder.

Trial by Court and Verdict Guilty of Murder in the First  
Degree. July 13, 1927.

The prisoner was asked if he had anything to say why  
sentence should not be passed upon him.

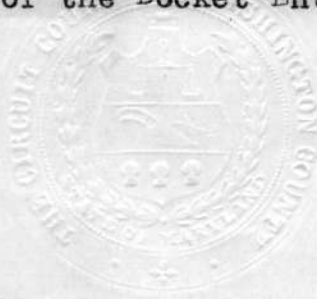
It is the judgment of this Court that William Henry Ross,  
alias Kelly, shall be taken into custody by the Sheriff of  
Frederick County, and held by him under such guard or guards as t  
the said sheriff shall determine <sup>to be</sup> necessary, and as soon there-  
after as possible, the said William Henry Ross, alias Kelly,  
shall be by the said sheriff delivered to the Warden of the  
Maryland Penitentiary where he shall be placed in solitary con-  
finement, under such guard or guards as might be necessary, and  
that the said William Henry Ross, alias Kelly, shall, by the  
said Warden or some assistant or assistants designated by him,  
in the presence of the Sheriff of Frederick County, the phys-  
ician of said Penitentiary or his assistant, and a number of  
respectable citizens numbering not less than six nor more than  
twelve, on such day as the Governor of Maryland shall hereafter  
appoint, suffer death by hanging.

July 15th, 1927.

STATE OF MARYLAND,

WASHINGTON COUNTY, to wit:

I, Edward Oswald, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Docket Entries in the foregoing case.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court for Washington County at Hagerstown this 15th day of July, A.D. 1927.

Edward Oswald  
Clerk.

*154130 July 1927*

(Coda)

DOCKET ENTRIES

*154130 July 1927*

154130 JULY 1927

NO. 29 CRML.TLS.MAY T.1927

DOCKET ENTRIES

(Copy)

*Filed July 18. 1927*



STATE OF MARYLAND

Vs.

WILLIAM HENRY ROSS  
Alias Kelly

§ NO. 29 CRIMINAL TRIALS

§ MAY TERM, 1927

§ IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

§ FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY

DOCKET ENTRIES.

Record from Frederick County filed June 27, 1927

Presentment and Indictment for Murder.

Trial by Court and Verdict Guilty of Murder in the First  
Degree. July 13, 1927

The prisoner was asked if he had anything to say why  
sentence should not be passed upon him.

It is the judgment of this Court that William Henry Ross,  
Alias Kelly, shall be taken into custody by the Sheriff of  
Frederick County, and held by him under such guard or guards  
as the said Sheriff shall determine to be necessary, and as  
soon thereafter as possible the said William Henry Ross, alias  
Kelly, shall be by the said Sheriff delivered to the Warden  
of the Maryland Penitentiary where he shall be placed in sol-  
itary confinement, under such guard or guards as might be  
necessary, and that the said William Henry Ross, alias Kelly,  
shall, by the said Warden or some assistant or assistants  
designated by him, in the presence of the Sheriff of Frederick  
County, the physician of said Penitentiary or his assistant,  
and a number of respectable citizens numbering not less than  
six nor more than twelve, on such day as the Governor of Mary-  
land shall hereafter appoint, suffer death by hanging by the  
neck.

July 15, 1927

STATE OF MARYLAND,

WASHINGTON COUNTY, to wit:

I, Edward Oswald, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Docket Entries in the foregoing case.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Circuit Court for Washington County at Hagerstown, this 15th day of July, A.D. 1927.

  
Edward Oswald  
Clerk.

*1927/12/15*

(GODA)

DOCKET ENTRIES

RECEIVED BY MAIL MAY 1 1934

No. 196 minute

May Term 1927

Fri July 23, 1927.

ALBERT C. RITCHIE  
GOVERNOR



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

July 22nd, 1927

✓

Hon. Eli G. Haugh,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court,  
Frederick, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Haugh:-

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, your  
favor of July 20th, enclosing docket entries in  
the case of William Henry Ross.

Very truly yours,

*Albert C. Ritchie*  
Governor.

R-L



No. 19 Criminals  
May Term 1927

Certificate of Warden of  
Maryland Penitentiary as  
to Execution of William  
Henry Ross alias Kelly

Filed September 15, 1927



# Maryland Penitentiary

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

I hereby certify that William Henry Ross alias Kelly  
was executed in conformity with the sentence of Judges of the Circuit Court of Washington County  
dated July 15, 1927 and the provisions of an Act to provide for the execution  
of all criminals sentenced to death by any Court of this State.

The execution took place in the chamber provided for such purpose at the Maryland Penitentiary at the  
hour of 12.55 A.M. September 9, 1927

Patrick J. Brady  
WARDEN

We, whose names are signed by ourselves here below, certify that we each witnessed the execution of  
William Henry Ross alias Kelly as certified to by the Warden of the Maryland Penitentiary.

N. Alvan Jones  
Guy W. Logg  
Geo. Clinton Blades MD  
John H. Hunsley  
Geo. H. Powers  
Carl L. Hakey

George P. Henze  
George A. Carroll  
Phil B. Walker  
C. Ralph Kline  
Alton C. Whitmore  
Harold Harschman

**PHONE, PLAZA 2471**

**DAVIS & EVANS**

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

**215 ST. PAUL PLACE**

**J. STEWARD DAVIS**

**1204 MADISON AVENUE**

**MADISON 2320**

**BALTIMORE, MD.**