

# IUN

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**Catalunya (Catalonia)**

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## **Man gets 20 years for killing woman he believed was a vampire**

ROCKPORT -- An Aransas County jury on Friday sentenced a 22-year-old man to 20 years in prison for shooting to death a Rockport-area woman he believed was a vampire. Nathaniel Chipps initially was charged with murder in the Aug. 15., 2006, death of 35-year-old Teresa Tracy McCartney, but a jury on Thursday found Chipps guilty of a lesser charge of manslaughter. Chipps could have faced as many as 99 years or life in prison on a murder conviction, a first-degree felony. He received the maximum penalty for manslaughter, a second-degree felony, said District Attorney Patrick Flanigan. Chipps also received a \$10,000 fine. Aransas County officials said Chipps told investigators that McCartney was a vampire and she "wanted to suck his blood." McCartney, who suffered a gunshot wound to the head, was found dead inside a travel trailer in the 900 block of the State Highway 35 bypass just outside of Rockport. Psychological experts testifying during the week-long trial said that Chipps might have undergone some type of psychological episode at the time of the shooting, Flanigan said. But Chipps was competent to stand trial, he said.

Barbara Ramirez  
www.caller.com., 16 June.

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