OPINION SUMMARY

MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

DIVISION TWO

STATE OF MISSOURI,	)	ED110467
	)	
Respondent,	)	Appeal from the Circuit Court of
	)	Jefferson County
v.	)	20JE-CR02088-01
	)	
CHRISTOPHER ROBERT SOKOLIC,	)	Honorable Joseph A. Rathert
	)	
Appellant.	)	Filed: February 7, 2023

Christopher Sokolic appeals the circuit court's judgment convicting him of murder in the first degree and sentencing him to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Sokolic asserts the circuit court erroneously overruled his motion for judgment of acquittal because there was insufficient evidence of deliberation.

AFFIRMED.

Division Two holds: Viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the verdict, we hold there was sufficient evidence for a reasonable jury to conclude Sokolic acted with deliberation. Sokolic inflicted multiple wounds on the victim with a deadly weapon after inducing him to drive to a concealed location. He fled without rendering aid to the victim. Prior to the murder, he told a friend she would see him on the six o'clock news and that he had taken "one last swim." His conduct and statements support a reasonable inference of deliberation. The circuit court did not err by overruling Sokolic's motion for judgment of acquittal. The judgment is affirmed.

Opinion by: Renée D. Hardin-Tammons, J.

Lisa P. Page, P.J. and Thomas C. Clark, II, J., concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Ellen H. Flottman

Attorney for Respondent: Ashley D. Murphy

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.