

Lindsey Blake  
Fremont County Prosecuting Attorney  
Fremont County, Idaho



Almost five years ago, the communities of Fremont and Madison County lost three wonderful human beings—Tylee Ryan, JJ Vallow, and Tammy Daybell. As a prosecutor on this case, this has been a hard-fought battle, both for the prosecution team and for the law enforcement agencies that worked tirelessly on this case and never gave up hope.

This has been a tough case because of its complexity: both in telling the story of an investigation that spanned years, and trying to figure out the best way to present it in a way that would make sense to others. As a prosecutor, I try a lot of criminal cases. But for me, as a new mom, the details of this one just hit differently, and I can't begin to imagine the families' pain.

I cannot express enough of my – and Fremont County's - deep appreciation, gratitude and admiration for all those who have played a role in seeking – and ultimately obtaining justice for the victims in this case – this case has been about speaking for and seeking justice for the lives of three wonderful humans whose lives were cut way too short by the selfish desires of the Defendant and his Co-Defendant Lori Vallow.

We are pleased with the outcome and that justice has been served for the victims in this case. This has been a collective effort among multiple agencies working in collaboration to see this case through for the victims and their families. There are so many people who have been involved and helped behind the scenes, and every last one of them has been instrumental in obtaining justice.

When I came into office in 2021, after discussing the case with others in Fremont County, and collaborating with the Fremont County's Sheriff Office, a decision was made to bring the case back to Fremont County because we felt strongly the case of JJ Vallow, Tylee Ryan and Tammy Daybell should be combined and tried together.

The Fremont County Sheriff's Office was instrumental in the decision and support of the prosecutor's office in making that difficult decision. I also cannot express enough, Fremont County's gratitude to the Rob Wood and the Madison County Prosecutor's Office. They started this case looking into the whereabouts of JJ and Tylee. Then, when the children's remains were discovered, Rob Wood stepped in without hesitation when my predecessor requested he take that case as a special prosecutor, and then ultimately agreed to combine resources to pursue justice for the victims.

A special thanks to the Fremont County Deputy Prosecutors Rocky Wixom and Tawnya Rawlings for their dedication and efforts in this and Lori Vallow's case. The Attorney General's office in first taking on the prosecution of the murder of Tammy, and then by their agreement to allow us to have Deputy Attorney General Ingrid Batey join the prosecution team. The FBI for stepping in without hesitation when the children were missing with their extensive experience and their resources and continuing to see this case through. The Rexburg Police Department for starting the investigation into the whereabouts of Tylee and JJ, and then never giving up the search. The Fremont County Sheriff's Office for their tenaciousness in pursuing the investigation into the death of Tammy. Arizona law enforcement for sharing everything they had uncovered, and their willingness to come to testify in the cases here in Idaho. This became a joint investigation, a joint effort to find the children, and then ultimately to seek justice on their behalf.

I have been absolutely amazed and astounded at the level of investigation, professionalism of the officers involved and the comradery that has been formed. I tell them all the time that they make my job easier.

We extend our support to Arizona in their continued pursuit of justice for the additional victims Charles Vallow and Brandon Boudreaux. We also extend our immense gratitude to the jurors in this case – who didn't sign up for this difficult process – but agreed to perform their civic duty, and in rendering this verdict, we hope the victims and survivors of Chad Daybell know that the community as a whole does not tolerate the loss of three precious and irreplaceable human beings. We are hopeful that those involved and effected by this case, and the actions of the Defendant and his Coconspirators can now begin to heal.