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Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

GOOSE CREEK MAN CONVICTED OF ROAD RAGE MURDER

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Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that a Berkeley County jury convicted Karrington C. Holmes, age 27, of a Murder that took place along Highway 52 just outside of Goose Creek. He was also convicted of Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime from the same incident. Assistant Solicitors Nicholas A. Young and F. Alexander Myers prosecuted the case. The verdict came yesterday following a four-day trial.

On May 1, 2019, at approximately 1:15 pm, Victim Rodney Middleton was driving a semi-truck along Highway 52 through Goose Creek towards Moncks Corner. While passing through Goose Creek, Defendant Karrington Holmes "cut off" the Victim in traffic nearly causing a collision at Central Avenue. The Victim then went around the Defendant's vehicle. The Defendant tailed the Victim for approximately three miles along Highway 52. When the Victim pulled into the driveway to his employer's heavy equipment yard, the Defendant pulled in behind the Victim, got out of his vehicle and confronted the Victim. The Victim was outside of the cab of his heavy hauling semi-truck and witnesses described a heated verbal exchange between the two. Ultimately, the Defendant aimed a black handgun with an extended magazine at the unarmed Victim and shot him twice. The Victim died later that day at Trident Hospital. A spent .45 caliber cartridge casing was found at the crime scene. Witness statements linked the Defendant to a black .45 caliber handgun with an extended magazine. The Defendant claimed to investigators that he was not present at the shooting. Surveillance video and an acquaintance to whom the Defendant described the road rage directly contradicted his claims and placed the Defendant at the crime scene.

The Honorable Thomas J. Rode sentenced Holmes to a total of 35 years in prison. "This was a circumstantial evidence case that the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office investigated effectively so that we could 'connect all the dots' for the jury. This was a senseless killing of a truck driver just going into work on what he thought would be an ordinary day. We hope this brings some closure to the Victim's wife, family, and friends." Said Assistant Solicitor Nicholas A. Young.

The Defendant has a prior conviction for Possession of a Handgun with an Obliterated Serial Number in 2017.

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