

News Release

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Tremaine Devon Nelson found guilty of Murder and Assault and Battery with Intent to Kill

Charleston, S.C. –It took a Charleston County jury less than 37 minutes of deliberation to find Tremaine Devon Nelson (DOB 8/11/1982) guilty of Murder and Assault and Battery with Intent to Kill (“ABWIK”) on Tuesday afternoon.

On July 13, 2007, outside an apartment complex on Calvert Street in North Charleston, Tremaine Devon Nelson and two co-defendants, Timothy Hoard (DOB 2/7/1985) and Jaquan Christopher Bryant drove up in an SUV, exited the vehicle and fired assault rifles at bystanders. DeShaun Brown, 28, of North Charleston was fatally wounded in the attack. Another man was shot in the leg and required emergency medical treatment. After the shooting, Nelson and his accomplice fled to Atlanta, where they were later taken into custody by United States Marshal’s Southeast Regional Task Force.

During an interview with North Charleston Police Department (“NCPD”) detectives, Nelson gave a full confession regarding his involvement in the July 13, 2007 shooting. In March of 2009, Nelson was tried for Murder and ABWIK before Circuit Court Judge R. Markley Dennis. Prior to trial, the defendant’s confession was suppressed after Nelson said he was hearing voices at the time he was interviewed by NCPD detectives. The case proceeded to trial and, after the jury deliberated for several hours, Judge Dennis declared a mistrial; finding the jury could not reach a unanimous verdict.

On Monday, February 9, 2009, Tremaine Devon Nelson’s case was tried again, this time before Circuit Court Judge Kristie Lee Harrington. After listening to arguments from Assistant Solicitors Henry Leventis and James Stack and Nelson’s defense attorney, Judge Harrington allowed the defendant’s confession to be presented to the jury.

At the request of Assistant Solicitors Leventis and Stack, Judge Harrington deferred sentencing until the trial of Nelson’s co-defendants who are scheduled to go to trial early next year. In South Carolina, murder carries a potential sentence ranging from a minimum of 30 years to a maximum of life in prison.

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