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For Immediate Release
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Man Sentenced to Life for Murder Committed During Attempted Robbery

Charleston, SC– November 13, 2019 On November 13, 2019 Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced that 19 year old Aaron Lamont Jordan was sentenced to life imprisonment after pleading guilty to Murder, Attempted Murder, Attempted Armed Robbery, Burglary 2nd Degree Violent and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. Sentence was imposed by the Honorable R. Markley Dennis, Jr. after a hearing in the Charleston County Court of General Sessions. White also received concurrent sentences of 30 years for Attempted Murder, 20 years for Attempted Armed Robbery, 15 years for Burglary 2nd Degree Violent and 5 years for the weapons charge.

The charges arose out of an incident occurring at 3030 Matipan Avenue on February 23, 2018. The home located at that address was in the process of being renovated to provide housing for wounded veterans. Michael Cooke, the victim of the Attempted Murder charge and his son, Bryan Cooke, the victim of the Murder charge, had volunteered their services to do some plumbing work in the bathroom.

Shortly before 11:00 a.m., White and an accomplice, both of whom were students at a nearby high school, entered the home with the intention of robbing the Cookes. White, who was armed with a .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol, first shot 41 year old Bryan Cooke during the attempted robbery. In the process of attempting to rob Michael Cooke, White shot him four times in the thigh, stomach, arm and head. Michael Cooke provided a graphic account of his experience during the plea hearing.

After being shot Bryan Cooke ran outside where he collapsed and died before medical help could be summoned. Michael Cooke, despite the severity of his injuries, was able to crawl out into the front yard and call 911 on his cell phone. He was subsequently transported to and treated at the Medical University of South Carolina.

White became a suspect when it was learned that he and his accomplice had arrived at school shortly after the shooting. White was questioned by Detective Will Muirheid of the Charleston County Sheriff's Office and, after initially denying any involvement, provided a full confession. In his confession White acknowledged that he was the only one that was armed and the one responsible for shooting both Bryan and Michael Cooke.

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