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PRESS RELEASE

Defendant Tyree Camphor: Ordered to Serve 35 Years in Prison during Sentencing Hearing in Hinds County Circuit Court

February 12, 2015
For Immediate Release

(Jackson, Miss) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith announced on February 12, 2015 that defendant Tyree Camphor was sentenced to 35 years in the custody of MDOC for one count of depraved heart murder. Camphor was convicted by a jury on January 29, 2015. The sentenced was ordered by Hinds County Circuit Court Judge William Gowan after considering pre-sentencing reports, defense witnesses, and statements by the family of the victim.

The sentencing hearing was the final disposition of the court after a four day trial in January regarding the shooting death of Jackson State University college student, Angelique Smith. In March of 2014, Jackson Police Department responded to a call for shots fired at the Belvedere Terrace Apartments. Investigati on revealed that 22 year old Angelique Smith had been shot when Tyree Camphor opened fire in the courtyard of Belvedere Terrace. Camphor was charged with aggravated assault, and Ms. Smith remained in the hospital. Charges against Camphor were increased to Murder in June of 2014 when Ms. Smith succumbed to her injuries.

During the sentencing hearing, Angelique Smith's family expressed to the court that there was a history of domestic abuse by the defendant and that the defendant regularly carried firearms.

Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith responded to the facts of this case and the prison sentence stating, "Domestic violence is a serious matter and can escalate into unforgiveable tragedies, such as the death of Ms. Angelique. Our office is glad that we could provide justice for the Smith family and express to Hinds County residents that in the pursuit of justice we will continue use the courtroom in the battle against domestic violence."

