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**HINDS COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
ROBERT SHULER SMITH, D.A.**

PRESS RELEASE

Alvin Brown sentenced for 2009 Birdland nightclub shooting that killed one bystander and wounded four others

February 5, 2014

(JACKSON, MISS.) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith today announced Alvin Lionel Brown, 923 Glenwood St. in Jackson, has been today sentenced to 30 years in prison for a September 20, 2009, shooting spree at Birdland Restaurant and Lounge in Jackson.

According to witnesses, Brown pulled out a .40 caliber pistol as he fought with a man inside the nightclub. The two wrestled with the gun and multiple shots were fired. Four bystanders were seriously wounded, including one victim who is paralyzed.

Yatasha Marie Johnson, of Pearl, was fatally shot in the head. She was a week shy of her 27th birthday.

On November 15, 2013, Brown was convicted by a Hinds County jury of Manslaughter and four counts of Aggravated Assault.

He was sentenced today by Hinds County Circuit Judge William A. Gowan to serve 20 years for Manslaughter (the maximum sentence for this offense) and 10 years for four counts of Aggravated Assault. These sentences will run consecutively, for a total of 30 years in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections.

"The victim in this case, Ms. Johnson, was a nurse - a young lady with a bright future," said Smith. "Her death was senseless in the truest meaning of the word."

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