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## Press Release

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### Dequane Deshun Lomax sentenced to 25 years for Forcible Rape

(Jackson, Miss.) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith today announced Jackson resident Dequane Deshun Lomax, age 19, has been sentenced to 25 years in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections for the forcible rape of a 15-year-old girl.

Sentenced by Hinds County Circuit Judge Jeff Weill, Lomax was ordered to serve 18 years in prison, to be released in 2031. This will be followed by five years supervised probation. He must register as a sex offender. Lomax also has another forcible rape charge pending in Hinds County.

In his trial last month prosecutors proved Lomax visited the victim in her Jackson home on January 20, 2013, while her mother was at work. There he used a 16-inch kitchen knife to force the teenager to have sex with him.

DNA evidence proved crucial to this case. Lomax's DNA was found on the victim. A partial DNA match on the handle of the 16-inch knife used in the rape also connected him to the crime.

On the last day of trial, Lomax took the stand. He failed to convince jurors he did not visit the victim in her home when he testified she instead came to his house for consensual sex. He went on to speculate she stole the 16-inch knife out of his house, thus explaining his partial DNA match on the handle.

"Dequane Lomax's other rape charge - unconnected to this case - certainly raises red flags," said Smith. "However, hard work by my prosecutors, JPD, and the court will prevent him from harming any more young women for the next 18 years."

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