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# PRESS RELEASE

## **Laqunn Sharod Gary found guilty of Capital Murder**

May 16, 2014

(JACKSON, MISS.) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith today announced Jackson resident Laqunn Sharod Gary (age 21) has been convicted of Capital Murder in the 2012 shooting death of Vizavian Darby (age 17), also of Jackson.

During the week-long trial, jurors heard testimony Gary and a female accomplice plotted to rob Darby of his rented 2011 Dodge Charger. The two persuaded Darby to take them riding in the Charger, with Gary in the backseat. As the car was stopped on Markham St. in Jackson, Gary shot Darby in the back of the head.

Evidence showed Gary pulled Darby's body from the Charger, then hid both the murder weapon and a pistol stolen from the victim in an air conditioning unit at a nearby church. Gary and his accomplice rode away from the scene of the murder in Darby's Charger, with Gary at the wheel.

Gary will be sentenced May 22, 2014, by Hinds County Circuit Judge Jeff Weill.

"Yesterday was Police Memorial Day," said Smith. "It's fitting to remember the superb police work in this homicide as another tribute to fallen JPD Det. Eric Smith, who was part of the team who won justice for Vizavian Darby."

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