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PRESS RELEASE

Sentencing for First Degree Murder conviction in Hinds County

April 28, 2015

For Immediate Release

(Jackson, Miss) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith announced today that Hamin Shaheed of Jackson, MS, was sentenced for First Degree Murder. This sentence comes after a conviction by a Hinds County jury in the trial that began April 6, 2015.

Shaheed was indicted for the September 2013 Murder of Trinton Truss at the Pine Oaks Apartments located in Jackson, MS. Shaheed and the victim were involved in a love triangle that ended tragically. Both men frequently visited the same woman at the apartment complex. When they both came over at the same time the defendant was in the apartment and came out and shot him three times in the head in a jealous rage at close range. Shaheed fled the scene and tossed the murder weapon. The victim was later pronounced dead at UMMC.

The defendant pled self-defense and the State of Mississippi proved the homicide was not justifiable. Expecting the sentencing statutes of the State of Mississippi to apply, as in any prior murder convictions, D.A. Smith concluded in his early April statement that he hopes "this conviction and mandatory life sentence will continue to send a message that violent criminals who prey on citizens of Hinds County will be held accountable for their crimes."

First Degree Murder carries a sentence of life without parole, and the State argued for this lawful and just sentence. To the great disappointment of the Family of victim, Trinton Truss, the sentence ordered by the judge was inconsistent with the statute for First Degree Murder. The judge suspended "all but 20 years" of the life sentence. The Hinds County District Attorney is actively working to address the legal issues associated with a sentence inconsistent with the Mississippi Murder Statute.