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**HINDS COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
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PRESS RELEASE

Hinds County Jury finds Defendant: Johnny Williams Guilty of Capital Murder

June 4, 2015

For Immediate Release

(Jackson, Miss) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith announced on June 4, 2015, that Jackson resident Johnny Williams (30 years old) was found guilty of capital murder of his infant daughter. This verdict followed a four day trial.

On July 3, 2012, at 3:45 p.m., Jasmine Porter entered Central Mississippi Medical Center carrying her seventeen month old lifeless daughter, Jada Williams. Jada Williams was the daughter of Jasmine Porter and Johnny Williams. Immediate medical assistance was provided, however it was quickly determined that Jada had already expired.

During the trial facts that developed were that, on the morning of July 3, 2012, Jada had an accident and defecated on herself. Johnny Williams admitted to whipping Jada with belt as punishment for the accident. Immediately after the whipping, Jada became unresponsive. Johnny Williams admitted that he did not take Jada to the hospital, or call 911 for help, because he was afraid to go to jail. Johnny Williams and Jasmine Porter drove unconscious Jada to various relatives' homes in the metro area. Johnny Williams was repeatedly told by relatives to take Jada to the hospital, but he refused.

After delaying to seek medical treatment for Jada for almost five hours, Johnny Williams finally dropped Jasmine Porter and Jada off at Central Mississippi Medical Center. An autopsy was performed by the State Medical Examiner's Office and it

was determined that Jada had extensive head trauma as well as substantial damage to her internal organs, the combination of which caused her death.

Johnny Williams will be sentenced by Judge William "Bill" Gowan on June 23, 2015. Mississippi Law mandates that Johnny Williams will receive a life sentence for the capital murder of his daughter, Jada Williams.

Williams's conviction is another example of Hinds County District Attorney Robert Smith's commitment to keep Jackson safe.