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# PRESS RELEASE

## **Hinds County Resident Johnny Williams Sentence to Life without Parole for Capital Murder**

June 23, 2015

For Immediate Release

(Jackson, Miss) Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith announced on June 23, 2015, that Jackson resident Johnny Williams (30 years old) was sentence to life without parole for the capital murder of his infant daughter.

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.

Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith addressed the jury verdict stating:

**“This was a senseless act inflicted on a vulnerable child. Children are our most precious possessions, it is our duty to protect the welfare and innocence of them. Because of Johnny Williams action, little Jada have been denied the opportunity to live a healthy and prosperous life. As prosecutors we are dedicate to remove criminals from the streets of Hinds County. Johnny Williams will spend the rest of his life in prison for this heartless and senseless crime”.**

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