

News Release

For Immediate Release
September 19, 2014

Man Sentenced to Fifty Years 2012 Waffle House Shooting

Charleston, S.C. – On September 19, 2014, a Charleston County jury found Deonte Steven Brown guilty of Murder, Attempted Murder and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. Circuit Court Judge Roger Young sentenced Brown to fifty years in prison.

In the early morning hours of July 15, 2012, Brown came to the Waffle House at 3565 Savannah Highway after leaving a local nightclub with several of his friends. Shortly after arrival and for no discernible reason, he started yelling at Quinton Allen, another Waffle House patron. When Allen did not react to Brown's words, Brown escalated the encounter by getting in his face and throwing a drink on him. A physical fight ensued. While Brown was being forced out of the Waffle House, he pulled out a gun and fired several shots, hitting Allen in the arm. As he fled the scene he shot several more times, fatally striking Dontaye Reed in the back. Reed died at the scene.

Assistant Solicitor Stephanie Linder said, "There was no need for this to have happened in the first place. It was a senseless act that had grave consequences." The jury returned verdicts of guilty on every charge after deliberating almost a day and a half. Brown must serve the fifty year sentence day-for-day.

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