

News Release

For Immediate Release
January 10, 2015

**Jury convicts Kadrin Singleton for 2012 murder of Sharell Williams.
Charleston, S.C. – January 10, 2015**

Solicitor Scarlett Wilson announced that a Charleston County jury found Kadrin R. Singleton (DOB 02/02/1990) guilty of murder for the 2012 killing of Sharell Williams. The jury deliberated most of Friday before handing down their verdict. Judge Kristi Harrington sentenced Singleton to life in prison based on the facts of the case and the defendant's 2008 convictions for Burglary 3rd degree and Strong Arm Robbery. Wilson stated, "We are grateful that Judge Harrington gave the max for a violent drug dealer who boasted of being a gang member and who refused to accept responsibility for what he did."

According to Assistant Solicitors Culver Kidd and Chris Lietzow, who prosecuted the case, on November 20, 2012, Kadrin Singleton arranged a drug transaction in which he was supposed to buy a quarter pound of marijuana for \$1500.00 from the victim. The defendant's true intent was to rob the victim at gun point. What started as a drug deal, transformed into an armed robbery, quickly became a murder when the victim did not take the defendant's threats seriously as he produced his pistol. The defendant shot the victim four times in total killing him immediately.

Assistant Solicitor Kidd stated, "When initially interviewed by NCPD, Singleton claimed he wasn't even at the scene of the shooting. At trial, however, he admitted to the shooting but claimed self-defense. Our verdict showed the jury caught on to the defendant's lies and reinforces our contention that simply calling a killing a "drug deal gone bad" is not enough to excuse murder."

In addition to the murder charge, the defendant pled guilty at the start of the trial for the companion charges of trafficking cocaine, failure to stop for blue light, and possession of a stolen motor vehicle charges (which stem from his arrest on November 25, 2012). Judge Harrington sentenced Singleton to maximum sentences on those charges as well and they will run concurrently to his life sentence.