

State of South Carolina

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SCARLETT A. WILSON

Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

News Release

For Immediate Release
January 12, 2018

Jury Convicts Montrelle “Troll” Campbell of Murder and Two Counts of Attempted Murder following multiple shots fired into home with an assault rifle.

Solicitor Scarlett Wilson announced that a Charleston County jury has found Montrelle Lamont Campbell (DOB 9/23/1981) guilty of one count of murder and two counts of attempted murder. The jury handed down its verdict Friday afternoon following a week-long trial. Upon a conviction of murder, Mr. Wright faced a sentencing range of 30 years to life in prison. Conviction on each of the attempted murders carried a range of zero to 30 years each. The Honorable Judge Deadra L. Jefferson, who presided over the trial, sentenced Campbell to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Assistant Solicitors Chad Simpson and Alex Ginsburg prosecuted the case. Simpson recounted that the incident occurred around 6:30 a.m. on September 19th, 2015, a Saturday. The previous Thursday night, Montrelle Campbell had been involved in an altercation with one of the female residents of a Norman Street home. He returned to the home just days later under cover of darkness while the residents were hosting a small social gathering. As children slept in the bedrooms and several residents and guests played cards inside, Campbell fired at least 14 bullets from an AR-15 into the rear window and door of the small residence. Several projectiles hit objects and broke into fragments, one of which injured the head of one victim. More traveled through the entire residence, exiting out of the front of the home and hitting other apartments across a courtyard. A testifying victim carries one of the projectiles with her today in her arm. Tragically, Antwan Frost, a 32-year-old employee of the East Bay Biergarten, writer of poetry, and well-liked lifetime resident of Charleston, had just stopped by the home minutes before the shooting. He sadly suffered a gunshot wound to the chest during the shooting which later proved fatal. He is survived and remembered by his loving mother Carolyn and sister Shanequa. Both spoke eloquently at Mr. Campbell’s sentencing about their loss and love for Antwan, who they and others called by the nickname “Dusty.” There was no indication that the defendant even knew the man he killed.

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The investigation of the case was difficult and lengthy, but adeptly managed by Detective Eric Tuttle of the Charleston Police Department, who invested countless hours into the case and remained thoroughly invested from the incident, in the intervening years, and up through the trial of the case. The case was further assisted by a high degree of community collaboration, with several coming forward to give statements and provide personal residential surveillance videos around the area at the time of the incident. Assistant Chad Simpson stated, “I’m thankful that the attentive jury was able to process the abundance of evidence which indicated the defendant’s guilt in this case and especially thankful to the Detective Tuttle and others with the Charleston Police Department for their thorough investigation of a case involving hours of video, voluminous phone records, and complicated circumstances.”

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