

State of South Carolina

Charleston County
101 Meeting Street, Suite 400
Charleston, SC 29401
Phone (843) 958-1900
Fax (843) 958-1905



Berkeley County
300-B California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Phone (843) 723-3800 ext. 4529
Fax (843) 719-4588

SCARLETT A. WILSON

Solicitor, Ninth Judicial Circuit

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William Thomas Gule Jr. convicted by Charleston Jury for the 2015 killing of Pamela M. Burgess

Charleston, S.C. – October 10, 2018 A Charleston County jury has found William Thomas Gule Jr. (DOB 03/01/1987) guilty of Murder in the 2015 killing of Pamela M. Burgess. The jury returned their verdict Wednesday afternoon. The defendant was also convicted of Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. The Honorable Doyet Early sentenced the Defendant to 40 years for the murder and 5 years concurrent for the firearms charge. State law requires that Gule receive credit for the time he has served in jail awaiting his charges.

During the morning of August 5, 2015 William Gule called 911 to report that he had been in a “tussle” with the mother of his child and that he accidentally shot her. Gule then turned himself in to authorities in Summerville while the Charleston Police Department responded to Burgess’ residence in West Ashley. Upon making entry, CPD Officers found Burgess’ body in bed in her upstairs bedroom. She was dead after suffering four gunshot wounds to her head. Despite Gule’s claim of accident, the forensic evidence conclusively showed that the victim was shot all four times while lying in her bed. Further investigation revealed that Gule and Burgess, who had a two-year old son together, had a tumultuous relationship with an unreported history of domestic violence. Testimony indicated that Burgess forced Gule to move out a month before he killed her.

Assistant Solicitor Culver Kidd who prosecuted the case said: “Domestic violence has been a scar on the face of South Carolina for some time. Violence within the homes of South Carolinians must be addressed at its source, so that children such as the one involved in this case, do not have to go through life without the benefit of either parent.”

Assistant Solicitor Ted Corvey who assisted in the prosecution of the case said: “Cases such as these are a stark reminder of the toll Domestic Violence can take. I hope this verdict stands to help those in our community realize the seriousness of domestic violence.”

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