



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Convicted for Shooting at a Convenience Store

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Maurice D. Jones, 26, of Springfield, Missouri was convicted yesterday afternoon, March 5, 2014, by a Greene County Jury for shooting a man at a gas station on August 03, 2012 following a brief verbal encounter. A Greene County Jury convicted the defendant of assault in the first degree and armed criminal action after deliberating for approximately three hours.

Around midnight on August 3, 2012, the victim was shot by Jones while he was sitting in his parked car in the Kum N Go parking lot located at National Avenue and Chestnut Expressway in Springfield. The victim's arm was shattered by the bullet and he has had extensive medical treatment since the shooting, including skin graft surgery for the scarring. Fragments of the bullet still remain lodged in the victim's arm.

Surveillance cameras at the gas station captured some of the key events in the shooting and the defendant was placed at the crime scene by the driver of the car in which the defendant was a passenger. The victim and the defendant did not know each other. After the shooting, the defendant made incriminating statements to others including statements that he had shot a man at a gas station for "mouthing" him. At trial, one of those witnesses that had a connection to the defendant retracted her prior statements concerning the defendant's admissions to her. Assistant Prosecutor Phil Fuhrman confronted the witness with her prior statements and her relationship with the defendant. APA Fuhrman also confronted the witness with text messages she sent near the time of the shooting to another person containing the admissions the defendant had made to her.

Subject: Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Press Release, State v. Jones, 1331-CR00025-01

The Court also found that Jones was a prior and persistent felony offender. His prior convictions include trafficking drugs in the second degree and stealing.

The jury trial was presided over by The Honorable Calvin Holden. The defendant is subject to a term of imprisonment of up to thirty years, or life imprisonment for the assault in the first degree conviction. The armed criminal action count carries a minimum sentence of three years in the Department of Corrections. Judge Holden set a sentencing hearing for May 2, 2014 at 2:00 pm following a sentencing assessment report by the Department of Probation and Parole.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Philip Fuhrman and Nathan Taylor. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Kevin Cantrell was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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