



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Convicted Murderer Sentenced for 2005 Double Shooting

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Robert Cummings, 63, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was sentenced yesterday by the Honorable Greene County Judge Calvin Holden for two counts of first degree assault and two counts of armed criminal action following a three day jury trial. The defendant was convicted on March 7, 2012 by a Greene County Jury of the charges which resulted from a 2005 double shooting in downtown Springfield.

Judge Holden imposed a forty year sentence in the Missouri Department of Corrections. (Count I – 20 years, Count II – 20 years, concurrent to each other but consecutive to Count III – 20 years, Count IV – 20 years, concurrent to each other). The defendant will be eligible for early parole based upon his age after he serves sixteen years in prison.

The charges stemmed from events occurring on March 16, 2005 at approximately 1:30 a.m., at Kristy's Cabaret, a bar. Witnesses testified that Cummings became upset with bar employees at closing time. He approached an employee of the bar, demanding another beer. Several other bar patrons listened as the employee told him that he could not have another beer. Cummings pulled a .22 caliber pistol out of his pocket and shot one customer twice in the abdomen, and another customer in the chest. Both victims were treated in a local hospital, and both survived their injuries.

Cummings is a prior and persistent felony offender who has prior felony convictions which include a New Mexico conviction for second degree murder with a firearm, federal convictions for distribution of cocaine and unlawful use of a weapon, and a California conviction for first degree robbery.

This case was tried by Senior Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys Emily Carlstrom and Jonathan Barker. It was investigated by the Springfield Police Department and Detective Brian Crum was the lead investigator assigned to the case.

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