



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Man Found Guilty of First-Degree Murder and Several Other Charges in Columbia Shooting

Howard County, MD (June 26, 2023) –Jerome Tyrell Thomas, age 31, was found guilty today of all counts to include 1st-degree murder and several firearm-related charges by a Howard County jury for the shooting death of a Baltimore man in 2020.

On May 1st, 2020, at approximately 12:15a.m., Howard County Police were called to the intersection of Governor Warfield Parkway and Twin Rivers Road for a report of a fight among several people with shots fired. Upon arrival, police located Anthony Tayvon McNeill, age 24, from Baltimore, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds in a nearby parking lot in the 10000 block of Nightmist Court. McNeill was transported to Howard County General Hospital where he later died. Police believe the shooting originated from an argument earlier in the evening between acquaintances of Thomas and McNeill.

Through investigation, detectives collected surveillance footage in the area and developed Thomas as a suspect. Thomas fled to North Carolina but was eventually taken into custody at a motel in Annapolis on May 15th, 2020.

“The loss of Anthony McNeill’s life was tragic and unnecessary. The defendant, Jerome Thomas, had a prior criminal record and did not learn from his past mistakes. Instead, he chose to commit one of the worst crimes a person can commit upon another by violently taking the life of McNeill,” said State’s Attorney Rich Gibson. “The state has filed for life without the possibility of parole in this case and we intend to ask the court to hold Thomas accountable for his actions to the maximum extent of the law.”

This case was prosecuted by the Deputy Chief of our Major Crimes Unit (MCU) Michael A. McAllister.

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