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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: Staten Island Man Found Guilty in Retrial of Murder Case

Wayne Thomas shot and killed two brothers, Terrell and Justin Ford

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that **Wayne Thomas** has been found guilty on two counts of Murder in the First Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for fatally shooting Justin Ford and Terrell Ford.

Thomas, 32, was found guilty following a two-week jury trial in Richmond County State Supreme Court, St. George before Justice Wayne Ozzi. The judge previously declared a mistrial in the case due to a deadlocked jury. With this conviction, Thomas faces up to life in prison without the possibility of parole when he is sentenced on August 2.

“The lives of two brothers ended in tragedy due to this defendant’s violent actions,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “Senseless gun violence has no place in our community and my office will continue to put criminals who endanger the lives of Staten Islanders behind bars. I would like to commend my team, ADAs Natalie Barros and Adam Silberlight, Deputy Chief of the Trials Bureau, for their diligence and professionalism in prosecuting this case twice. We hope that this guilty verdict can finally bring the family of the victims some closure.”

On or about Oct. 4, 2015, at approximately 2:55 a.m., at the intersection of Targee Street and Vanderbilt Avenue in the Clifton section of Staten Island, defendant **Thomas** fired at least three rounds from a 9 millimeter semi-automatic pistol at Terrell Ford, 27, and Justin Ford, 28. One bullet struck Justin Ford in the back, and two bullets struck Terrell Ford in the torso and back, killing them both. A fight between the defendant’s friend and the victims preceded the fatal shooting. After the shooting, **Thomas** fled from the scene on foot. The defendant was apprehended by the Regional Fugitive Apprehension Task Force on October 8, 2015 inside of an apartment at 820 Henderson Street.

Thomas, a violent felon, was out on parole at the time of the shooting after previously pleading guilty to Manslaughter in the First Degree and being sentenced to ten years in prison and five years post-release supervision for his role in a separate fatal shooting that occurred on May 29, 2005.

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The case was prosecuted by ADAs Natalie Barros and Adam Silberlight, Deputy Chief of the Trials Bureau.

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Defendant Information:

Wayne Thomas

D.O.B.6/24/1985

SI, NY

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