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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: Wayne Thomas Sentenced to Consecutive Life Terms in Prison for Double Murder

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 sentenced to two consecutive terms of life in prison without the possibility of parole after previously being convicted of 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 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. Today, the defendant was sentenced to two consecutive terms of life in prison without the possibility of parole for each count of Murder in the First Degree. Additionally, the judge sentenced **Thomas** to 14 years in prison for the weapons charge, which will run concurrently with the life sentences.

“This sentence ensures that a violent criminal is off the streets and never again capable of inflicting harm on the people of Staten Island,” said **District Attorney Michael E. McMahon**. “The tragic loss of two lives at the hands of Mr. Thomas is reprehensible and I hope that today’s sentence can finally bring the Ford family some closure. I would like to commend my team, ADAs Natalie Barros and Adam Silberlight for their diligence and professionalism in prosecuting this case twice.”

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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