

# THE 21st MONTHLY

FROM THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY SCOTT M. PERRILLOUX

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## HUDSON SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON

Richard Hudson, 24, of New Orleans, LA was sentenced to life with the department of corrections without the possibility of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence for one count of first degree murder of Rafael Garrison.

A 12-member jury found Hudson guilty of the 2013 murder back in June. Assistant District Attorney Donald Wall represented the State with Judge Robert H. Morrison presiding.

During the trial, Wall explained to members of the jury of the events leading up to the shooting of Garrison.

During the incident, there was an eye witness who advised that she was in the residence when the shooting occurred and had seen Richard Hudson and Terry Landry just before the shooting.

The witness stated that that the victim had called Hudson and Landry to arrange the sale and purchase of a quarter pound of marijuana at North Oaks Park. After meeting in the park, the victim, Hudson, and Landry went to the victim's residence to weigh the marijuana.

The witness advised that the last call Garrison received was from Hudson. Upon checking phone logs Hammond Police Department Detectives concluded that the last call was in fact from Hudson.

With this information, a photo lineup was generated with Richard Hudson in the lineup. Upon presenting the lineup to the witness, she positively picked out Hudson as one of the individuals involved in the shooting. When Hudson was questioned by Hammond Police Department Detectives, Hudson confessed to his role in the robbery of the victim, including the shooting of the victim.

## COPELAND SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS

John Copeland, of Amite, LA, pleaded no contest to theft of \$1,500.00 or more and forgery of prescription. He was sentenced to 12 years with the department of corrections.

On July 6, 2012, detectives were dispatched to the Amite Police Department in reference to a walk-in theft complaint. Upon arrival the detectives noticed that the complainant was a 16-year-old juvenile. The detective advised the juvenile that his parents would have to file the complaint on his behalf.

The juvenile advised the detective that he was in the parking lot of the Family Dollar when he was approached by a black male subject. The juvenile stated that he was removing a \$10.00 bill from his wallet when the black male subject grabbed the \$10.00 bill, jumped in a blue SUV, and fled going south. The juvenile was also able to provide the license plate of the vehicle.

The juvenile described the subject as a black male, about 6'2 in height, and weighing between 220-250 pounds. He stated that that he was wearing a white ball cap, white t-shirt, and black knee length shorts.

The detective had seen John Copeland earlier this day wearing the same attire described. Based on this information, the detective developed a six person photographic line up including Copeland's photograph.

Copeland was positively identified by the juvenile victim as being the subject who grabbed his money and fled from the scene. The detective issued an arrest warrant for Copeland. Upon locating and arresting Copeland, further investigation was continued.

In an unrelated incident and while having an outstanding warrant for failure to appear in court, on April 18, 2016 authorities interviewed an informant regarding the passing of fraudulent forged prescriptions. The informant provided names of subjects that successfully passed forged prescriptions in the Amite area. Detectives checked with all pharmacies located in Amite city limits and discovered several individuals who obtained Norco and Oxycodone tablets with fraudulent and forged prescriptions.

Copeland was among these individuals and he obtained 120 Norco tablets with a forged prescription at the Amite Thrift Town Pharmacy. The prescription was a forged signature of a doctor. Copeland went on to admit that he had never been treated by this doctor and further advised after having the prescription filled he gave the pills to someone and received \$50.00 cash.

Copeland was then booked on the outstanding warrant and for obtaining a scheduled controlled dangerous substance with a forged prescription.

John Copeland was sentenced to 12 years with the department of corrections. He is to serve this time concurrently, said Perrilloux.

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## **COURT DATE CHANGES**

We regret the inconvenience of having to close courts during the recent flooding. We also recognize the disruption this has caused to so many of citizens. Realizing this disruption, we have rescheduled the court dates according to the following schedules. You will need to attend court on the date rescheduled, or come into the District Attorney's Office in your parish to receive notice on another date. If you fail to do one or the other, you are subject to having a warrant issued for your arrest. Please visit our website [www.21jdda.org](http://www.21jdda.org) under the tab "Press Release Archives" to see your new court date according to divisions.

## **August Notable Convictions**

Daville Barnes, age 20, of Franklinton, LA, pleaded no contest to attempted simple burglary, two counts of armed robbery with a firearm, simple burglary, and armed robbery with a firearm. He was sentenced to 15 years with the department of corrections. Time is to be served concurrently.

Jamie Felder, age 22, of Hammond, LA, pleaded no contest to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, aggravated criminal damage to property, and illegal discharge of a firearm, and resisting an officer. He was sentenced to seven years with the department of corrections. Time is to be served concurrently.

Calvin Gross, age 47, of Hammond, LA, pleaded no contest to possession with intent to distribute schedule I and schedule II controlled dangerous substances, possession of schedule II and schedule IV controlled dangerous substances, and distribution of schedule I and II controlled dangerous substances. He was sentenced to eight years with the department of corrections. He received credit for time served.

Shaune McMorris, age 39, pleaded no contest to possession with intent to distribute schedule II CDS, manufacturing methamphetamine, and possession of schedule II CDS. He was sentenced to 10 years with the department of corrections.

James Moore, age 35, of Hammond, LA, pleaded no contest to second degree kidnapping, aggravated assault with a firearm, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, illegal use/possession/consumption/distribution of a controlled dangerous substance in the presence of persons under 17, distribution of schedule I controlled dangerous substances, distribution of a counterfeit schedule II controlled dangerous substance, and attempted introduction of contraband into a correctional institution. He was sentenced to 10 years with the department of corrections.