



THE 21ST MONTHLY

FROM THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY SCOTT M. PERRILLOUX

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ALLEN SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR MURDER

Brian Allen of Denham Springs, LA was sentenced to life in prison without the benefit of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence for the second degree murder of Derrick Stewart and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Back in February, a unanimous jury found Allen guilty of the 2016 murder of Stewart. During the three day trial the state explained to members of the jury the events that led up to the shooting and called numerous witnesses to the stand to testify.

The state presented to the jury over 60 pieces of evidence proving that Allen committed the homicide. Among the evidence presented was a home surveillance video that caught the murder on video. The video showed Stewart attempting to leave the area in his vehicle when the vehicle Allen was operating blocked the roadway. Stewart backed his vehicle down the street in an attempt to get away but Allen's vehicle proceeded to follow Stewart. Allen was seen on the surveillance video shooting at Stewart's vehicle once Allen exited his car.

Allen was later arrested and transported to the Livingston Parish Detention Center where he was properly booked.

While Allen was in custody, he made multiple phone calls from LPDC in reference to his alibi, wiping his finger prints off of the gun used to commit the murder, and hiding the gun. All phone calls were recorded on the phone system at the jail, placed into evidence, and heard by the jury.

Allen was sentenced March 27, 2017, one day before the one year anniversary of Stewart's death.

SMITH CONVICTED AND SENTENCED FOR KIDNAP AND RAPE

Charles A. Smith, of Amite, LA, was found guilty of two counts of aggravated kidnapping and one count of aggravated rape by a 12-member jury.

On January 25, 2015, Livingston Parish Sheriff Office dispatch was notified of a vehicle pursuit initiated by St. Helena Parish Sheriff Office which was heading toward Livingston Parish. LPSO patrol deputies responded to assist SHSO. The vehicle was a 2006 four door Chrysler that fled from pursuing deputies. Shortly after, the vehicle pulled onto a grassy area along LA 16 about one mile north of the Livingston Parish line and the driver fled on foot into a wooded area leaving behind in the vehicle was a 27-year-old female and her 2-year-old daughter. Through investigation, the adult female passenger stated that she and her daughter had been kidnapped at gunpoint from the Dollar General Store located on Highway 16 in Denham Springs earlier that night.

During the victim's testimony, she stated that she and her daughter were entering her vehicle at the Dollar General when a black male approached her with a handgun forcing his way into her vehicle and left driving northbound on LA 16 into St. Helena Parish. She went on to say that the suspect stopped at a grocery store where he made her buy purchase Kool Cigarettes and a box of Trojan condoms while he stayed in the vehicle with her daughter threatening to harm the child if she reported the kidnapping. After leaving the grocery store the male drove to an unknown location where he made her get out of the vehicle and sexually assaulted her while armed with the handgun and while the child watched from the vehicle. Afterwards, he made her get back into the vehicle and began driving back toward St. Helena when he began the high speed chase with SHSO deputies.

On January 26, 2015, a six person photo lineup was shown to the victim who positively identified Smith as the person who committed the kidnapping and rape upon her. On January 29, 2015, a six person lineup was shown to the Dollar General clerk who saw the male outside in front of the store. She also positively identified Smith.

Through joint investigation, on February 5, 2015, the crime scene that the rape occurred was identified as Harris Ame Zion Church on Hano Road in Independence, LA. Located at the church was physical evidence that the male had thrown on the ground after the sexual assault. A small black handgun was recovered from the victim's vehicle which matched the description of the weapon used by the suspect. Based on forensic DNA evidence tests conducted by the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab proved that Charles Smith was the male that committed the crime.

Charles Smith was sentenced to life with the department of corrections.

District Attorney's Office observes National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2017

April 2-8, communities throughout the nation will rally to honor and support all victims of crime. This year's theme—***Strength. Resilience. Justice.***—reflects a vision for the future in which all victims are strengthened by the response they receive, organizations are resilient in response to challenges, and communities are able to seek collective justice and healing. For victims, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) means that they are not alone: they and their families are not left to face the physical, mental, and financial devastation of crime without the services and support they need. If you are a victim of crime, we believe you have rights. Our Tri-Parish Victims Assistance Program is available to provide information and emotional support as your case proceeds through the criminal court system. It is important that the criminal justice system provide the same consideration to victims that is afforded to criminal defendants," stated District Attorney, Scott M. Perrilloux. A special ceremony in honor of area homicide victims will be held on, Thursday, April 6, 2017. The ceremony will begin promptly at 5:30pm at the Hammond Police Union Hall, 201 Natchez Street, Hammond, Louisiana,

The Tri-Parish Victims' Assistance program provides services to victims of crime with active cases in the 21st Judicial District: advocacy, education, emotional support, case notification for felony and domestic cases, court escorts, and a domestic violence prosecution unit. Anyone in need of these services should contact their local district attorney's office weekdays from 8a.m. to 4p.m.