

News Release

For Immediate Release
October 29, 2014

Timothy Johnson sentenced to 20 years for 2012 shooting of North Charleston Police Department Officer.

Charleston, S.C. – October 29, 2014 On October 27, 2014, before a jury could be drawn, Timothy Johnson (DOB 09/21/86) pled guilty to shooting North Charleston Police Department Officer David Winslette in the El Cheapo gas station parking lot on Dorchester Road in North Charleston. After an agreement with prosecutors and the approval of Officer Winslette, Johnson pled guilty to a negotiated 20 year sentence for one count of attempted murder and a consecutive 5 year sentence suspended on 3 years of probation for one count of possessing a firearm during the commission of a violent crime.

On January 14, 2012, Officer Winslette approached Timothy Johnson in the parking lot of the El Cheapo gas station because he matched the description of a suspect in an unrelated iPad theft that took place less than one block away. As Officer Winslette approached Johnson and asked to speak with him, Johnson turned, drew a 9mm pistol from his waistband, and fired four shots at Officer Winslette. The first round struck the officer in his bullet proof vest center mass, the second hit one side of his left knee and exited the other, while the final two shots missed the officer. Johnson fled on foot across Dorchester Road into a neighborhood near I-26 where he was picked up by an accessory, Dontreia Durant. Durant drove Johnson away from the crime scene area. Approximately fourteen hours later, after circulating images of the defendant captured from surveillance cameras in the area and receiving tips from the community, Johnson, Durant, and another accessory, Cretion Patterson, were located in an apartment in the Horizon Village community in North Charleston. Durant and Patterson were charged with Accessory after the fact of a felony for their roles in harboring Johnson following the shooting. Durant pled guilty and received a 6-year active sentence while Patterson pled guilty and received a probationary sentence.

Assistant Solicitor Culver Kidd, who prosecuted the case, stated, “After many lengthy discussions with NCPD and Officer Winslette, we all agreed this was the best way to eliminate the risks posed by a trial and to get a sentence that takes Johnson off our streets for a long time.”

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