

News Release

For Immediate Release
June 11, 2015

Jury convicts Vaughn Hilliard for 2013 murder of Troy Cason

Charleston, S.C. – June 11, 2015: Solicitor Scarlett Wilson announced that a Charleston County jury has found Vaughn Hilliard (DOB 11/10/1957) guilty of murder for the 2013 killing of Troy Cason. The jury returned its verdict Wednesday, after a two day trial. Judge Kristi Harrington sentenced Mr. Hilliard to 40 years in prison based on such an unnecessary loss of life.

According to Assistant Solicitors Culver Kidd and Richard Waring, who prosecuted the case, on September 7, 2013, an argument that started over something trivial: the pouring of beer near the Defendant's property line. The silly argument turned deadly when the Defendant retrieved a .22 caliber rifle from inside his residence and shot the victim through a six foot fence topped with barbed wire. The victim died of his wound approximately 30 hours later in the hospital at MUSC.

Assistant Solicitor Kidd stated, "Hilliard admitted to the shooting at trial but claimed self-defense. Our verdict shows the jury did not buy the defendant's version of events. Obviously, shooting an unarmed man from behind a fence is not worthy of protection under the Castle Doctrine or any theory of self-defense."

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