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Jury Convicts Quantas Green of Murder; Judge Sentences him to 30 years in Prison.

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Charleston, SC - Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson announced today that a Charleston jury found Quantas Green guilty of Murder and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime following a jury trial last week. The Honorable Thomas William McGee, III, who presided over the trial, sentenced Green to 30 years in prison.

Assistant Solicitors Andrew McAllister and Tiffany Izer prosecuted the case against Green, assisted by Investigators Eric Jourdan and Joshua Pierce. Green was represented by Grant B. Smaldone, Esq. During the trial, witnesses testified and surveillance videos showed that Green shot Mr. Erron Javier-Javon Johnson once in the neck. Johnson died as a result of the injuries he sustained from the single gunshot.

Green and his cousin arrived at Player's Place Billiards in the West Ashley a little before midnight on December 13, 2021. Green was armed with a 9mm semi-automatic pistol. Green and Johnson agreed to play a game of pool and played without incident until Green threw his pool cue onto the table wanting to quit. Green then aggressively approached Johnson forcing Johnson to push Green away from him.

Surveillance showed a brief conversation between Green and Johnson until Green stepped back and fired one round into Johnson's neck. One witness testified he heard Green yell profanities just before pulling his pistol and firing the fatal round. Following the shooting, the Defendant slowly, calmly, and deliberately walked towards the front door where he stopped and fired at least eight more rounds into the crowded bar. Green then fled on foot in order to evade law enforcement. Deputy Kevin Willis and K-9 Rex located Green in a saltmarsh about an hour after the shooting wearing the same distinct clothing seen on surveillance.

The defense maintained that Green acted in self-defense. McAllister argued to the jury that Defendant's actions demonstrated he acted in anger, not fear.

The Charleston Police Department investigated this crime with the assistance of the Charleston County Sheriff's Department. Detective Michael Galka, the lead investigator on the case, played a crucial role in presenting the State's case. The Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office recognizes the sacrifice, patience and diligence shown by this jury who deliberated for almost fifteen hours over the course of two days.

A statement from Johnson's mother was read to Judge McGee detailing her sadness at the loss of her son to gun violence as well as Johnson's love for pool, his community, and his family. McAllister contended that this case was about more than the moment that changed two families forever and asked the court to also focus on Green's calculated decisions that lead to this horrible tragedy.

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