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AG ANNOUNCES THAT COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS JEFFERSON COUNTY CAPITAL MURDER CONVICTION

(MONTGOMERY)— Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals last Friday upheld the capital murder conviction of Christopher Gallant. Gallant, 37, of Montgomery, was convicted in Jefferson County Circuit Court in February of 2014 for the murder of Ralph Woodfin.

Evidence presented at trial showed Gallant, who was in the repossession business, drove to Birmingham with his girlfriend to repossess cars. He then sought to buy narcotics and drove to the Southtown area of Birmingham near 24th Street and 9th Avenue South, where he allegedly bought drugs from Woodfin, which he discovered were fake. The girlfriend testified that Gallant possessed a gun and that he fired several shots at Woodfin. The victim was struck five times, twice in the back, and died of his wounds.

The case was prosecuted at trial by Jefferson County District Attorney Brandon Falls' office. Gallant was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole and subsequently sought to have his conviction reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Division handled the case during the appeals process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm the conviction. The Court did so in a decision issued on Friday, May 22.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Bill Little of the Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Division for his successful work in this case.

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