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AG MARSHALL ANNOUNCES COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS CHOCTAW COUNTY MURDER CONVICTION

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals on Friday upheld Melton Crosby III’s convictions for murder, two counts of attempted murder, and shooting into an occupied vehicle. Crosby, 31, of Waynesboro, was convicted in March of 2016 for the murder of Bandarius “Dodie” Hill, for two counts of attempted murder for attempting to murder Tyris Miller and Jamar Thompson, and for shooting into an occupied vehicle.

The evidence at trial showed that in the early morning hours of September 18, 2011, a confrontation occurred in the parking lot of the Selebras Night Club near Silas in Choctaw County, resulting in the discharge of 47 rounds from an AK-47 type assault rifle and 14 rounds from a 9-mm handgun. Crosby and two codefendants, Brandon Yates and Cedric Jones, were charged with the murder of Brandarius "Dodie" Hill, two counts of attempted murder for attempting to murder Tyris Miller and Jamar Thompson, and shooting into an occupied vehicle. They were tried separately.

Following a jury trial, Crosby was convicted of the charged offenses. Yates also was convicted, but the Court of Criminal Appeals had earlier reversed and remanded the Yates conviction on July 8, 2016, and retrial of his case is pending. Charges against Jones were dropped in return for his testimony against Crosby.

The Crosby case was prosecuted at trial by Choctaw County District Attorney Spencer Walker’s office. Crosby was sentenced to concurrent sentences of 40 years’ imprisonment for the murder conviction, 40 years’ imprisonment for each attempted murder conviction, and 10 years’ imprisonment for the conviction for shooting into an occupied vehicle. He subsequently sought to have his convictions reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section handled the case during the appeal process, arguing for the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals to affirm the convictions. The Court did so in a decision issued on Friday, July 7. Attorney General Marshall commended Assistant Attorney General Yvonne Saxon of the Attorney General’s Criminal Appeals Section for her successful work in this case.

