

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2016

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AG STRANGE ANNOUNCES COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS UPHOLDS MONTGOMERY CAPITAL MURDER, ATTEMPTED MURDER CONVICTIONS

(MONTGOMERY)— Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals last Friday upheld the capital murder and attempted-murder convictions of Walter Terrance Miles. Miles, 22, of Montgomery, was convicted in Montgomery County Circuit Court in August of 2015 for the murder of Rickey Verbin Farris and the attempted murder of Joshua Hopper.

Evidence presented at trial showed that on the evening of December 15, 2013, Miles was riding in the front passenger side of a vehicle that blocked the Chevrolet Tracker driven by Farris and in which Hopper was a passenger. Miles confronted them and began shooting. Several of the bullets struck Farris and caused his death. Hopper was also shot twice.

The case was prosecuted at trial by Montgomery County District Attorney Daryl Bailey's office. Miles was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole on the capital murder conviction, and to life imprisonment for the attempted-murder conviction. The circuit judge ordered the sentences to run consecutively. Miles subsequently sought to have his convictions reversed on appeal.

The Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section 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, April 22.

Attorney General Strange commended Assistant Attorney General Laura Cuthbert of the Attorney General's Criminal Appeals Section for her successful work in this case.

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