## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Steve Marshall Alabama Attorney General



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Page 1 of 1

## Attorney General Steve Marshall Announces Court of Criminal Appeals Upholds Barbour County Murder Conviction

(MONTGOMERY) — Attorney General Steve Marshall announced that on Friday the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals affirmed the murder conviction of Willie James Dickerson. Dickerson, 48, of Barbour County, was convicted in Barbour County Circuit Court in March 2017 for the murder of Willie David Pugh.

The evidence at trial showed that on or about January 14, 2012, Dickerson stabbed Pugh in the face and neck, causing his death. Pugh's body was dumped in a wooded area off Sutton Dairy Road in the Doster community of Barbour County.

Barbour County District Attorney Ben Reeves' office prosecuted this case and obtained a guilty verdict. Dickerson was sentenced, as a habitual offender, to life imprisonment. Dickerson 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 Friday, June 28.

Attorney General Marshall commended Assistant Attorney General Yvonne Saxon for her successful work on this case.

