

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 3, 2023

TWO MEN SENTENCED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER IN CHEROKEE COUNTY

J.W. Miller, III, 34, pleaded guilty on Friday in Spartanburg to Attempted Murder, Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime, and Possession of a Firearm by a Violent Felon. He was sentenced to twenty (20) years in prison for Attempted Murder as well as five (5) years in prison for Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime, and five (5) years in prison for Possession of a Firearm by a Violent Felon.

Miller's codefendant, Randall Dewon Armstrong, 29, pleaded guilty earlier in June in Cherokee County. Armstrong was sentenced to twelve (12) years in prison for Attempted Murder as well as five (5) years in prison for Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime. Both men's sentences will be served concurrently. Circuit Court Judge Grace Gilchrist Knie issued the sentences.

The crimes occurred on March 2, 2019, at the Lockhart Lane Apartments in Cherokee County. As Cedric Rogers walked out of an apartment, he was confronted by J.W. Miller, III and Randall Dewon Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong believed that Mr. Rogers was involved in a vehicle being repossessed from Mr. Armstrong. The three men engaged in a verbal confrontation. The confrontation became heated and Mr. Miller shot Mr. Rogers in the head. Mr. Miller and Mr. Armstrong then left the apartment complex together in a white Hyundai SUV. Officers with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department identified the Hyundai SUV as a rental vehicle originating from Spartanburg County. The vehicle was returned to the rental company a few days after the shooting. In addition, Mr. Rogers was able to identify both Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Miller.

Miller's prior criminal history included convictions for Burglary in the First Degree, Burglary in the Second Degree Violent, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Possession of a Stolen Vehicle.

Armstrong's prior criminal history included convictions for Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature, Discharging a Firearm Into a Dwelling, Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Failure to Stop Motor Vehicle When Signaled by Law Enforcement Vehicle.

Assistant Solicitor Evan Haney prosecuted both Armstrong and Miller.

From the Office of Seventh Circuit Solicitor Barry J. Barnette; for more information, contact Amy Goulding at 864-596-3812 or agoulding@spartanburgcounty.org.

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