

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2023

SPARTANBURG MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS FOR 2019 MURDER

From the Office of Seventh Circuit Solicitor Barry J. Barnette

A Spartanburg man has been sentenced to forty (40) years in prison for Murder as well as a ten (10) year prison sentence for Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature and a five (5) year prison sentence for Possession of a Weapon During Commission of a Violent Crime to both run concurrently with each other and the forty (40) year Murder sentence.

Rishard Lewis Geter, 37, was tried and found guilty of Murder, Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature, and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. The trial began on Monday in Spartanburg. Circuit Court Judge J. Mark Hayes, II presided over the trial, received the jury's guilty verdict, and then issued the sentence on Thursday, February 16, 2023. The five (5) year prison sentence for Possession of a Weapon During Commission of a Violent Crime and ten (10) year prison sentence for Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature will run concurrently with the forty (40) year prison sentence for Murder.

The crimes occurred on November 1, 2019, around 5:30 p.m. on Amherst Drive in the Park Hills neighborhood in the City of Spartanburg. Following a disagreement, Rishard Lewis Geter jumped from a vehicle while armed and fired a pistol approximately ten (10) times at Jason Eison. Mr. Eison suffered seven (7) gunshot wounds at the scene and was transported to Spartanburg Regional Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries.

Geter's prior criminal history included convictions for Unlawful Carrying of a Handgun, Trespassing, Possession of a Stolen Pistol, Pointing and Presenting a Firearm, Breach of Peace of a High and Aggravated Nature, Assault with Intent to Kill, and Domestic Violence in the Second Degree. Geter was on probation at the time of the November 1, 2019 crimes. Geter was incarcerated at the time of his February 2023 trial.

Assistant Solicitors Maressa Cuenca and Derrick Balsa prosecuted Geter. Assistant Solicitor Cuenca remarked that bringing Geter to justice was a team effort with hard work by law enforcement and all involved.

For more information, contact Amy Goulding at 864-596-2575 or agoulding@spartanburgcounty.org.

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