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CLAYTON JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 24, 2024

Clayton County District Attorney Tasha M. Mosley announces the conviction of Julius Priest for the offense of Felony Murder, and the conviction of LaTonya Moore for the offenses of Voluntary Manslaughter and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

On January 31, 2021, the victim, Mark Frazier, was rushed to Southern Regional Medical Center by his brother and other witnesses after he sustained gunshot wounds to his left leg. Defendant Moore shot Mr. Frazier at the direction of Defendant Priest following an altercation between Mr. Frazier and Defendant Priest at the Woods Motel in Jonesboro, Georgia. Mr. Frazier was eventually transported to Grady hospital where he underwent emergency surgery as he suffered an apparent brain injury due to severe blood loss and cardiac arrest. Mr. Frazier died after 11 months of palliative care as a result of the injuries he sustained at the hands of the Defendants.

Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Brooks led the State's case with Assistant District Attorney Evan Hansinger serving as second chair. Major Case Investigator Khalil Rajahn and Victim Advocate Maria Dillard played vital roles in this case. The Defendants pled guilty during their specially set trial on October 21, 2024.

Senior Judge David B. Irwin presided over the sentencing hearing and sentenced Mr. Priest to a life sentence with the possibility of parole. Ms. Moore received a sentence of 30 years and will serve 25 years in custody.

District Attorney Mosley stated, "*These convictions reflect our ongoing commitment to seeking justice for victims and ensuring the safety of our community. We remain dedicated to upholding the law and holding those who commit violent crimes accountable.*"

