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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clayton County District Attorney Tasha M. Mosley announces the conviction of Daijon Tyes. On September 14, 2023, a Clayton County jury returned a guilty verdict on Malice Murder, two counts of Felony Murder, Criminal Attempt to Commit Robbery, and Aggravated Assault.

At trial, the State presented evidence showing that, at approximately 3:15pm on November 6, 2019, the Defendant Daijon Tyes shot and killed the victim Christopher Barnes in broad daylight during an attempted armed robbery at the Chevron gas station located on Rex Road. On November 6, the Defendant and three of his friends traveled together in a car from Fulton County to Clayton County with the purpose of going “striking” (committing crimes). Video evidence showed the Defendant and his friends arrived at the Chevron gas station a little after 3:00pm. While in line for the register, the Defendant observed a large amount of cash in the wallet of 28-year-old Christopher Barnes, who was in line behind him. The Defendant then returned to the car where his friends were waiting, and they began to drive off. The Defendant instructed his friends to return to the parking lot and stop their car by Barnes, who was standing behind his vehicle at a gas pump. The Defendant then exited the passenger’s side of their vehicle, with a gun in hand and demanded Barnes’ money. When Barnes resisted, the Defendant fired his handgun six times, striking Barnes five times. After the shooting, The Defendant’s friends drove away and he fled on foot, but was soon caught nearby with the murder weapon still in his possession. During an interview with the police, the Defendant repeatedly denied involvement and gave false versions of what occurred. He ultimately admitted to shooting and killing Barnes while trying to rob him.

Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Kimberly Myers led the State’s case with Assistant District Attorney Anyssa Williams as second chair. Investigator Dwayne Harrison along with Victim Advocate Kelita Almond played vital roles in the prosecution of this case. The Trial began on September 11, 2023 and concluded on September 14, 2023.

Clayton County Superior Court Judge Aaron B. Mason presided over this trial and promptly sentenced Tyes to life with the possibility of parole plus 15 years.

District Attorney Mosley stated, “*We hope this conviction brings some peace to the family of Mr. Barnes and that the citizens of Clayton County and the State of Georgia can rest easier knowing that we have removed a violent offender from the streets. As always, my office continues to work tirelessly on behalf of all Clayton County citizens.*”

