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CLAYTON JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2023

Clayton County District Attorney Tasha M. Mosley announces the conviction of Earl Dennard, Jr. A Clayton County jury returned a guilty verdict on Malice Murder, Felony Murder, and Aggravated Assault.

At the trial, the State presented evidence showing that on August 28, 2021, the victim Davieon Norfus drove to the Chase Ridge Apartments in Riverdale, where he was meeting the defendant, who he knew from high school. While the Victim waited in his car, the defendant parked at a nearby apartment complex, snuck up on the victim, and immediately shot him in the head through the closed car window. The defendant then reached into the victim's car and took items before fleeing the scene on foot. Prior to succumbing to his injuries, the victim was able to advise first responders "Earl" shot him. Cell phone records showed the defendant was the last person in contact with the victim just minutes before the shooting and social media records showed the victim and the defendant were communicating the day before the incident. Two eyewitnesses were able to later identify the defendant as the shooter. During the investigation, police located and collected the defendant's father's handgun, which scientific testing revealed to be the murder weapon in this case. During trial, the defendant testified and claimed that he shot the victim in self-defense; however, much of the defendant's testimony was proven to be untruthful and there was no evidence to support his self-defense claim.

This case was prosecuted by the Clayton County District Attorney's Office Assistant District Attorney Kimberly Myers and Assistant District Attorney Nigel Hunter. Investigators Khalil Rajahn and Jennifer Langley and Victim Advocates Carla Dixon and Kenya Shepherd also played crucial roles in the prosecution of the case. The trial began on June 20, 2023 and the verdict was returned on June 23, 2023. Senior Judge Albert Collier presided over the case. Sentencing has been scheduled for a later date.

District Attorney Mosley stated, "Once again, justice has been served and another violent offender is off our streets! We hope this conviction brings some peace to the family of Mr. Norfus. As always, my office continues to work tirelessly on behalf of all Clayton County citizens."

