



MEDIA RELEASE

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*DISTRICT ATTORNEY
CLAYTON JUDICIAL CIRCUIT*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2022

On October 31, 2022, Courtney Antonio Evans pled guilty to and was convicted of Felony Murder.

On the night of Nov. 7, 2017, Courtney Evans robbed, shot, and killed twenty-year-old Michael Gibbs during what Gibbs believed was going to be a transaction for a small amount of marijuana. Instagram records showed that, just prior to the incident, Evans contacted Gibbs on Instagram, arranged to buy a small amount of marijuana from Gibbs, and directed Gibbs to a landmark in Evans' neighborhood. When Gibbs arrived at that location, Evans got into Gibbs' car, shot Gibbs in the head five times with a .380 cal. handgun, and robbed Gibbs of his money, marijuana, cell phones, and .40 cal. handgun. A nearby resident heard the gunshots and soon observed one person exit Gibbs' car and run in the direction of Evans' home, which was just 500 feet away. Gibbs was pronounced deceased on scene.

On Nov. 29, 2017, Evans was caught on the campus of Morrow High School in possession of the .40 cal. handgun that was stolen from Gibbs during the murder; however, Evans fled from police before they could arrest him. During a search of Evans' home on Nov. 30, 2017, police located a box of the same brand and type of .380 cal. used to commit the murder. Police also learned that Evans' mother owned a handgun to which Evans had access, and that gun went missing around the time of the murder. Evans' mother's missing gun was a Cobra .380 handgun, which firearms analysis revealed to be a type of gun consistent with the spent casings at the murder scene.

Evans evaded arrest in this case for approximately six months, during which time he committed additional crimes, including two Gwinnett County Armed Robberies for which he was subsequently convicted.

On Oct. 31, 2022, Evans' case was scheduled to proceed to a jury trial. Rather than face a potential sentence of life without parole if convicted at trial, Evans accepted the State's pretrial plea offer of life with the possibility of parole and entered a negotiated guilty plea to five charges, including Felony Murder. Clayton County Superior Court Judge Jewell Scott presided over the case and sentenced Evans to serve a life sentence. Evans may be eligible for parole after serving 30 years.

District Attorney Mosley stated, "Justice has again been served taking another violent offender off our streets. As always, my office continues to work tirelessly on behalf of all Clayton County citizens".

