

State of South Carolina
Solicitor, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

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Solicitor
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PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

April 11, 2019

Greenville Man Convicted of Murder, Burglary First Degree, Attempted Armed Robbery, Conspiracy, and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime

Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor Walt Wilkins states that TRISTIAN XAVIER-MARIAN CUMMINGS, age 28, was convicted on April 10, 2019 by a Greenville County jury of Murder, Burglary First Degree, Attempted Armed Robbery, Conspiracy, and Possession of a Weapon During the Commission of a Violent Crime. Mr. Cummings was sentenced to thirty-five (35) years in the South Carolina Department of Corrections by the Honorable Michael G. Nettles.

Evidence and testimony presented at trial by Deputy Solicitor William McMaster and Deputy Solicitor Andrew Culbreath established that at approximately 1:15 a.m. on March 6, 2016, TRISTIAN XAVIER-MARIAN CUMMINGS and his co-defendant, Simeon Williams, forced their way into the home of Jeryl White on Burgess Avenue in Greenville with the intent to rob him. White and his girlfriend, April Green, heard the defendants attempting to kick down a side door of the residence. Ms. Green called 911 and hid under the bed as the defendants forced their way into the home. As the defendants gained entry into the home, White attempted to hide in a bathroom. Cummings, armed with a 45 caliber pistol, fired one shot through the door of the bathroom where White was hiding, striking White in the upper shoulder/neck area. While demanding money, Cummings then forced his way into the bathroom and shot White again.

Greenville County Sheriff's Office deputies were alerted to the burglary in progress and arrived at White's home in less than three minutes. Upon arrival, deputies observed both Cummings and his co-defendant inside the residence. Williams was immediately captured in the kitchen of the residence. Cummings fled out the front door and was chased into the backyard of the residence where he was also arrested. Mr. White later died at the hospital as a result of the gunshot injuries he sustained. Ms. Green remained hidden under the bed until deputies arrived, and was unharmed. Portions of the burglary and attack on Mr. White were captured on the audio 911 recording between Ms. Green and the County 911 dispatcher, and were entered into evidence during the trial. Following the jury verdict, Solicitor Walt Wilkins stated "The convictions in this case were made possible by the prompt and professional actions of both the Greenville County Sheriff's Office deputies and our 911 dispatchers."