

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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SC Court of Appeals

Appeal from Aiken County

Honorable Maite Murphy, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER,

APPELLANT.

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2024-000825

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VOLUME II OF II
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INDEX

INDEX	i
TRIAL TRANSCRIPT DATED MAY 13-26, 2024	1
OPENING STATEMENT BY MR. RITTGERS	5
OPENING STATEMENT BY MS. STEINER	11
TESTIMONY	
MICHAEL ALLEN	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack	18
Cross Examination by Ms. Steiner	63
Redirect Examination by Ms. Hammack	79
MARK BLADES	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers	82
Cross Examination by Ms. Steiner	85
MARGARET PAULI	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack	87
<i>Voir Dire</i> Examination by Ms. Steiner	92
Continued Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack	93
Cross Examination by Ms. Steiner	138
EMILY PALMER	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers	154
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush	157
JEREMY HEMBREE	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers	159
Cross Examination by Ms. Steiner	177
Redirect Examination by Mr. Rittgers	182
KELLY ROSE	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack	184
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush	202
Redirect Examination by Ms. Hammack	207
CARLOS COLINDRES	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack	209
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush	215

ELEANOR HUNTER	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	219
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush.....	252
Redirect Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	280
KRISTIN HONTZ	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	285
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush.....	295
THOMAS DARNELL	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	298
Cross-Examination by Mr. Bush.....	307
Redirect Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	307
ADRIENNE HEFNEY	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	309
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush.....	331
Redirect Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	334
CHAD SMITH	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	337
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush.....	380
Redirect Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	393
KEVIN JAMES	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	405
SHY'TAVIA JAMES	
Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	412
DEFENSE'S OBJECTION TO STATE'S EXHIBIT NO. 64 (GIRLFRIEND PHOTOGRAPH WITH GUN) PURSUANT TO RULES 401 AND 403, SCRE BY MS. STEINER	
	416
COURT'S RULING FINDING STATE'S EXHIBIT NO. 64 (GIRLFRIEND PHOTOGRAPH WITH GUN) ADMISSIBLE.....	
	417
TESTIMONY	
SHY'TAVIA JAMES	
Continued Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	417
DEFENSE'S OBJECTION TO STATE'S EXHIBIT NO. 65 (FACEBOOK VIDEO) PURSUANT TO RULE 403, SCRE BY MS. STEINER	
	420
RESPONSE BY MS. HAMMACK	421

REPLY BY MS. STEINER.....	423
COURT’S RULING FINDING STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 65 (FACEBOOK VIDEO) ADMISSIBLE	426
TESTIMONY	
SHY’TAVIA JAMES	
Continued Direct Examination by Ms. Hammack.....	428
JASON GRIFFIN	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	433
Cross Examination by Mr. Bush.....	444
DEFENSE’S OBJECTION TO STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 64 (GIRLFRIEND PHOTOGRAPH WITH GUN) PURSUANT TO RULES 401 AND 403, SCRE BY MS. STEINER	448
COURT’S RULING FINDING STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 64 (GIRLFRIEND PHOTOGRAPH WITH GUN) ADMISSIBLE.....	448
TESTIMONY	
CLAY ADAMS	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	450
JON EAGERTON	
Direct Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	458
Cross Examination by Ms. Steiner.....	564
Redirect Examination by Mr. Rittgers.....	571
STATE RESTS.....	574
DEFENSE RESTS	575
CLOSING ARGUMENT BY MS. HAMMACK	575
CLOSING ARGUMENT BY MS. STEINER	602
CHARGE ON THE LAW	611
DEFENSE’S RENEWAL OF ALL PRIOR MOTIONS AND OBJECTIONS BY MS. STEINER.....	632
VERDICT.....	635

SENTENCING.....636

STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 20 (CELLEBRITE SCREENSHOTS)637

INDICTMENTS644

SENTENCE SHEETS652

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL660

**THE FOLLOWING EXHIBITS ARE ON FILE WITH THIS COURT:
STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 64 (GIRLFRIEND PHOTOGRAPH WITH GUN), STATE’S
EXHIBIT NO. 65 (FACEBOOK VIDEOS), AND STATE’S EXHIBIT NO. 69 (BLOCKER
INTERVIEW).**

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 (Inaudible).

3 MALE VOICE:

4 This is with him. That's what he said.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 That's right.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Uh-huh (affirmative).

9 MALE VOICE:

10 And so -- I just know how it is. I've been doing
11 this longer than you've been alive, man. You're not
12 gonna get me to believe that somebody that you know,
13 and that you hang out with, and places that you hang
14 out at -- and I'm not saying you stay there all the
15 time -- don't -- don't -- don't take it as that --
16 it might be five or 10 minutes, 15 minutes, an hour,
17 it might be all day one day -- it might be, "Hey,
18 we're gonna have a cookout at my girlfriend's
19 house;" I'm gonna hang out there for a day -- but
20 your girlfriend lives there. You go there, okay --
21 you've been seen there before by us -- and other
22 things related to the incident that puts you there -
23 - you're not going to get me to believe that all
24 you've heard is a dude got shot.

1 MALE VOICE:

2 And you don't know Reggie?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 I don't know Reggie.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Reggie knows you.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Guess where Reggie said he was that night?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Where?

11 MALE VOICE:

12 With your girlfriend at her place with you. I've
13 got it written down on that pad right there. That's
14 what I was showing him. That's what he said.

15 MALE VOICE:

16 Why would he say he's with your girlfriend?

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I don't know.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 I think you're a better kid than I don't know -- not
21 the -- honestly, I'll tell what I think happened. I
22 think the drug transaction occurred and everything
23 was cool, and something --

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 Something.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 -- something spooked the group, and then gunshots
4 rang out.

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 I don't know. I wasn't there.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Okay, all right. I just -- I mean, I think you -- I
9 think you know more and -- I mean, if it's -- if
10 it's I don't know, I don't know. But I just -- like
11 I said, I've been doing this long enough to know --

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 I don't know.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 That -- that you've at least heard something to say,
16 "Hey, I'm about to get jammed up in murder and the
17 best -- best I can come up with is I don't know."

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 But that's -- I don't know. I don't know nothing.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 Even if you've heard something, tell us something
24 that you've heard.

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 I haven't heard nothing (inaudible).

3 MALE VOICE:

4 You just heard (inaudible).

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 I don't know nothing.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 But you know who.

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Yeah, it was on the news.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 Right. Okay.

13 MR. BLOCKER:

14 But I didn't know who.

15 MALE VOICE:

16 Huh?

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I don't (inaudible) who got shot.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 Yeah. Why would your fingerprint come back?

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 From -- from what?

23 MALE VOICE:

24 Your fingerprint -- I have your fingerprint.

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 You ain't got my fingerprints.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 I have your fingerprint.

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 (Inaudible).

7 MALE VOICE:

8 I have your fingerprint.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 We ain't gonna lie to you. That's not how we do it.

11 We got your fingerprint from something recovered at
12 the crime scene, that nobody else would've had.

13 MALE VOICE:

14 Like I said, honesty is your best way but if you
15 want to do this -- that's fine too.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 I want to make sure we're talking about the right
18 apartment, so I'm going to pull up a street view of
19 the Bricks, all right. I think -- think probably
20 what is -- is -- here's the thing -- you're saying
21 one apartment and we're thinking another apartment -
22 - so, I just want to see what -- make sure we're
23 thinking of the same one where she lives, all right.
24 Fair statement -- that's Schofield -- this is what's

1 considered the Bricks? All those different
2 apartment buildings? Right -- right behind
3 Schofield -- right across from Schofield? That's
4 where she live? In the white house across from the
5 Bricks?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 (Inaudible).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 I thought you said she lived at the Bricks.

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 That's the Bricks.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 That's -- that's what they call the Bricks too?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 No, that's what I call it.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 That's what you call the Bricks, okay. So, it's not
18 one of these apartments over here, it's -- you're
19 telling me it's -- well, if I can get it to load.
20 You're saying it's this?

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 Uh-huh (affirmative).

23 MALE VOICE:

24 This two-story house across the street from the

JURY TRIAL

1 Bricks? That's where your girlfriend lives?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Uh-huh (affirmative).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 And her name is ShyGlizzy.

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Uh-huh (affirmative).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Does she go to school anywhere?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 She graduated.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Where did she graduate from?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I want to say Aiken High.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Aiken High, okay.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 So none of that looks familiar where she lives?

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 Uh-uh (negative).

22 MALE VOICE:

23 Okay. Who all lives there besides her and her dad?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 Brother.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Why is this being a pain in the ass?

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Did I get it right?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Uh-huh (affirmative).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 What's her brother's name?

10 MALE VOICE:

11 I don't know (inaudible).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 So how many people live there? Her, dad, and
14 brother?

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 Her little brothers and sisters.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 How many would you guess?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 Three.

21 MALE VOICE:

22 So there's a total of four kids and the dad?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 Uh-huh (affirmative).

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Okay. What's her dad drive?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 (Inaudible).

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Huh?

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 He drive a Dodge.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 A Dodge, truck or car?

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 Car.

13 MALE VOICE:

14 Gotcha. I was making sure, I think the right
15 apartment, which I guess I was wrong 'cause I was
16 thinking of -- of the apartment, and not the house
17 across the street.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 (Inaudible) Kemontee, this is -- it's an unusual
20 situation here that you've got -- that you're in.
21 Like I said, we've talked to a lot of people and we
22 have a lot of information that we have and I just
23 don't think that I don't know anything is going to
24 cut it for you as far as kind of getting right and

1 telling the truth. Like I said, we have evidence.

2 We have your fingerprint. Why would your

3 fingerprint pop up on a crime scene?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 I don't know.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 You understand where I'm coming from?

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 Uh-huh (affirmative).

10 MALE VOICE:

11 If what I'm saying is true, and it is, why would

12 that be? I mean, and then -- let's -- let's reverse

13 it -- then I'm sitting saying, "I don't know, I

14 don't know," but you have evidence. What -- what

15 would you think?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 I don't know what to think.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 Right.

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 But I know I wasn't there. I know.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 Yeah. You don't know Reggie?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

JURY TRIAL

1 No.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Never met him?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 Never met him.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 Okay. You know we spent about three hours with him
8 yesterday.

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Uh-huh (affirmative).

11 MALE VOICE:

12 It's a long time. He sat in here and we had a good
13 conversation. So, what do you think he said?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I don't know what he said 'cause I don't know him.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 You don't know him at all?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 I don't know him at all.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay. Well, we go back to why is your print where
22 it is. No reason it should be where it was and we
23 didn't do the print. We recovered it and had it
24 taken to a crime lab, and they did it. He went to

1 go get something, that's why I'm kind of waiting;
2 it's something we need to show you. Maybe that'll
3 kind of give an explanation of what -- what we're
4 talking about, okay?

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 All right.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 How long you been with Shy?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 A month.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 I mean -- y'all together, together or just -- you
13 just know her?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 (Inaudible).

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Yeah. So she would come up here and verify your
18 story?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 Uh-huh (affirmative).

21 MALE VOICE:

22 You think she'd tell me? All right, what's her
23 number?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

JURY TRIAL

1 I don't know her number.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 You don't know her telephone number?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 I don't even know my own telephone number.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 Why not?

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 I ain't good with numbers.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 You got to know that. So where is she now?

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 She probably at home now.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 At that two-story house?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 Uh-huh (affirmative).

18 MALE VOICE:

19 (Inaudible) you want a water?

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 No, (inaudible).

22 MALE VOICE:

23 I'll bring you a water.

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 I'm straight.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Okay.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 So you say your Cash App -- you use -- is in whose
6 name?

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 My mom's.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 Your mom's. Does that link to her bank account or
11 yours?

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 Hers.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 Hers, okay.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Do you got anything to say about that? No? Just it
18 is what it is? That one's going to link to your
19 bank account, right? Yeah? Now it's no, or is
20 yeah, or is no?

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 No.

23 MALE VOICE:

24 No? So the guy you don't know -- so the Cash App

JURY TRIAL

1 transaction for some dope but you don't know him,
2 but he knows your Cash App stuff. It's pretty
3 important, man.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 You know, I don't know (inaudible) fix it.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 We have a lot of stuff and the best you can give us
8 is "I don't know?" Just tell us what happened.

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 I don't know what happened. All I know is I served
11 some weed (inaudible) my girlfriend.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Okay, who was you with when you served weed?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I was by myself.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Okay. So you served a dude some weed by yourself?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 And I left.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay.

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 And I went with my -- back with my girlfriend and we
24 just drank, and I played UNO.

1 MALE VOICE:

2 I'm going to ask you something, be honest with me,
3 you didn't go to that white house, did you?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 Uh-uh (negative).

6 MALE VOICE:

7 No. We've been here almost an hour, man. Why is it
8 so hard?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 I thought y'all was trying to book me for selling
11 weed.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 (Inaudible) care about that shit? Weed is the last
14 thing we are worried about at this point. You got a
15 dead dude in a car, man. Dead dude in a car.
16 You're a smart fellow.

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I ain't got nothing to do with that.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 But you -- but you a smart fellow man. You're smart
21 enough to realize what's more important, a dead dude
22 or a little bit of weed?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 Yeah, I served him some weed.

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Okay.

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 And I left and went back to my girlfriend's.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Who was around when you left?

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 There wasn't nobody around when I left.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 So they just sitting in the car?

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 Yeah. When I walked -- when I started walking -- I

13 --

14 MALE VOICE:

15 Who did you pass?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 I didn't pass nobody really.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 Okay.

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 So I --

22 MALE VOICE:

23 At what point was Reggie with you in this?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 Reggie?

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Uh-huh (affirmative).

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 He wasn't with me. He wasn't with me when I served
6 the weed.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Listen to me. Listen, look at me and listen, okay?

9 Look at me and listen.

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 Uh-huh (affirmative).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 And he helped set it up.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 Set what up?

16 MALE VOICE:

17 The drug transaction.

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 Yeah.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay, so --

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 He told me somebody was coming for weed but he left.

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 Okay, so --

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 And I went and served the weed, and I left.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Who was with you when you served the weed?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Wasn't nobody with me but me.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Okay, so you walk up and then you leave?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 I served him the weed.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 All right, how'd you do the tran --

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 (Inaudible).

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Show me how you do the weed transaction.

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 I walk up --

20 MALE VOICE:

21 I'm the dude sitting in the car.

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 I walk up.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 So I'm looking at the Bricks, right?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Yeah.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 All right.

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 I walk up and I have -- I scale the weed. I ask
8 him, "How much do you want?"

9 MALE VOICE:

10 Okay.

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 He said \$60 worth.

13 MALE VOICE:

14 Okay.

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 So I -- so I scaled up a quarter, and I gave him a
17 quarter, and I told him -- he said --

18 MALE VOICE:

19 All right, did you do that in your hands, on the
20 hood of the car, the back seat of the car?

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 I did it in the back seat of the car.

23 MALE VOICE:

24 Okay. Did you get in the car?

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 Yeah, I got in.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 Okay. All right.

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 I serve him the weed.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 We're making some progress now.

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 I serve him the weed. I got out of the car. I shut
11 the door. I told him to drive safe.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Yeah?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 'cause it's 12:00, so drive safe (inaudible).

16 MALE VOICE:

17 (Inaudible).

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 And I left. I walked -- I walked all the way back
20 around the corner to (inaudible) with my girlfriend,
21 and got -- went back in the house.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 Okay, who was at the house when you got back?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 It was Reggie -- Reggie was in there, her father was
2 in there, the cousin was in there, my girlfriend was
3 in there, and her little brothers and sisters.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Okay. Who's the cousin?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 I don't know (inaudible).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 (Inaudible).

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 I don't know her cousin. I can't --

12 MALE VOICE:

13 (Inaudible). What's he look like?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 She a girl.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 It's a girl. So the only dudes in the house is you,
18 and Reggie, and Dad?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 The father, yeah.

21 MALE VOICE:

22 Okay, all right.

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 So we playing drunk UNO.

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Playing drunk UNO?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 Uh-huh (affirmative).

5 MALE VOICE:

6 All right. And so you -- you walked up and did the
7 drug transaction by yourself. I know that's a lie,
8 all right. I know there was one other person with
9 you.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 There's a whole bunch of people --

12 MALE VOICE:

13 People are talking. There's videos. There's
14 statements. Who's the other person with you? Come
15 on, man. You've come too far to say, "I don't know"
16 at this point.

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I tell you. It was just me. I walked and served
19 them weed, and I went back around the corner to my
20 girlfriend (inaudible) drunk UNO.

21 MALE VOICE:

22 Okay. Nobody ran off to get anything?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 No. Nobody ran off to get anything.

1 MALE VOICE:

2 You've come a long way in this last three minutes.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 From "I don't know (inaudible)."

5 MALE VOICE:

6 (Inaudible) to I don't know, all right. Just tell

7 us.

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 I just told y'all.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 Okay. All right, so -- so to kind of recap -- she

12 doesn't live at the (inaudible) or at the white

13 house, she lives at the Bricks. If I had to guess -

14 - it's not 154 either, is it?

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 That's the number.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 So when you walk in, that's the number on the door,

19 is 154?

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 Yeah.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 You sure?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

JURY TRIAL

1 Yeah.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Is it the first, or second, one or the third one?

4 You want me to pull it back up?

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 There are four doors.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 You want me to pull it back up and make sure we're

9 looking at the right one? It's that third one?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 Yeah.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Okay. All right. So y'all are there -- Reggie

14 says, "Hey, I got somebody coming to buy some weed?"

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 Yeah.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 Does he tell you what to look for?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 No he just tell me --

21 MALE VOICE:

22 How do you know which car to go?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 'Cause the name, he told me I went to school with

1 him.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 So you knew him?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 Yeah, I knew (inaudible).

6 MALE VOICE:

7 What did Reggie tell you?

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 That he wanted to buy some weed.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 And how did he say it? What did he say?

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 He said "Hey" -- he said, "Hey what's your name?"

14 And I told him my name (inaudible) somebody wants to

15 buy some weed, you got (inaudible) and I was like,

16 "Yeah."

17 MALE VOICE:

18 Okay. All right.

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 Again I --

21 MALE VOICE:

22 And he told you JoJo wanted to buy it?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 Yeah.

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Okay. How'd you know what car to look for? Could
3 you see (inaudible).

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 I just walked to the little thing, and I looked, and
6 I seen him.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 When you say, "The little thing," what you mean?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 The sign.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 Beside the sign for the apartments?

13 MR. BLOCKER:

14 Yeah.

15 MALE VOICE:

16 All right, you walked there, look left or right?

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I just went into the walk and I seen (inaudible) and
19 I seen him, like oh, that's JoJo.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Was the headlights still on?

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 Yeah.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Okay, so they had really just got there?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Yeah.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Okay. So you walk up to them?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 And serve them the weed.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 All right. Walk me through that. Like I said, I'm
10 sitting here, looking at -- I'm JoJo, I'm sitting
11 here looking at the Bricks.

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 I'm walking up, I say, "That's JoJo?" He said,
14 "Yeah." I said, "Oh, you needed some (inaudible)."
15 Yeah. So I get in the back seat. I scale out -- I
16 cut my scale on. I put my weed on the scale. I cut
17 my scale back off. I (inaudible) put it in the bag,
18 tied the bag up. Give him the weed. I tell him
19 (inaudible) I get out the car, I close the door, and
20 I walk back (inaudible).

21 MALE VOICE:

22 All right. And nobody else is with you?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 Nobody was with me.

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Okay. Even during the tran -- the drug part?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 (Inaudible).

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Okay.

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 I'm with nobody.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 Okay. All right, so you sell him the weed and then

11 you go back --

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 Correct.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 -- keep playing drunk UNO?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 Uh-huh (affirmative).

18 MALE VOICE:

19 Okay. Thank you.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 So no altercation, you never heard anything,

22 everything just went smooth the rest of the night?

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 (Inaudible).

1 MALE VOICE:

2 How many gunshots did you hear?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 I heard five gunshots.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Okay.

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 And I got -- I had -- I got on the floor, and I seen
9 the little kid running toward the window so I
10 grabbed (inaudible) told him to, "Get down there's a
11 gunshot."

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Yeah.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 Everybody in the house (inaudible) everybody get in
16 the floor.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 So you heard about five you said?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 I heard five.

21 MALE VOICE:

22 Okay. Did they sound like they were in front of the
23 apartment, or behind the apartment or...?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

JURY TRIAL

1 I don't know 'cause like (inaudible) I heard it from
2 inside her house, it sounded like -- like they was
3 down the road a little bit.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Yeah.

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 That what it sounded like.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 I got you. So it sounded close but not like right
10 there at you?

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 Yeah.

13 MALE VOICE:

14 But not close enough that you didn't want him at the
15 window?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 Yeah.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 I got you. All right. So you said you got in the
20 back seat -- did you -- did your little scaling and
21 all that.

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 Uh-huh (affirmative).

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Did you take the scale with you?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Yeah.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Yeah? Okay. How much weed do you think you had
6 that night -- in excess of what the \$60 was? Just a
7 little bit more? Lot more?

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 (Inaudible) quarter.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 Like I said, I don't care.

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 I had nothing but a quarter left.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 Okay. What'd you do with that?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 I sold it. I -- that quarter I -- I smoked it with
18 -- with my friends.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 Okay, all right.

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 'Cause when we heard the gunshots, everybody got
23 scared.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Yeah, it gets nervous, yeah. What about -- so to
2 make sure I'm right again -- dad, girlfriend, you,
3 Reggie, and her brothers and sisters, which is three
4 more people, right?

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 Yeah.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 And then a girl cousin?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Yeah.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 All right. Is at the apartment, that's it, nobody
13 else?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 And the momma was upstairs.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Okay. What's mom's name? So -- so -- so dad is --
18 dad's married --

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 Uh-huh (affirmative).

21 MALE VOICE:

22 -- to somebody? Okay. When you first said, "dad"
23 over and over, I never heard "mom" so I just assumed
24 that maybe he was a single dad. So, mom's there as

1 well?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Uh-huh (affirmative).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 What's her name?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Shantae.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Okay. Do you know her last name?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 It should be the same, I think.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 It should be the same, okay, all right. How often
14 do you hang over at the Bricks?

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 I don't go over there like that. Only time I go
17 over there is when (inaudible) or my girlfriend tell
18 me to come to go (inaudible). I don't go out there
19 (inaudible) none of that.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Right. So after you sold him the drugs, you took
22 all the stuff with you? And --

23 MR. BLOCKER:

24 Went back (inaudible).

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 And went back to her, and then how long after you
3 get back do you hear gunshots?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 I'd say about -- about like 10 minutes. 'Cause when
6 I was walking, I took the -- I didn't see nobody
7 running.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Yeah.

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 (Inaudible) and they pass out the cards, we playing.
12 I had to take four shots but everybody hit me with
13 draw twos, I had to take four shots. And on my
14 fourth shot, that's when I heard pop, pop, pop, pop,
15 pop, pop, pop. And that's when everybody
16 (inaudible) got down.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 Yeah. Okay. Well, like I told you a minute ago, I
19 appreciate you coming around 'cause -- I don't know
20 when you're there or whatnot -- I don't know, okay.
21 I guess you kind of thought --

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 I thought y'all was gonna try to charge me for the
24 weed.

1 MALE VOICE:

2 Like we told you at the beginning, that ain't what
3 we're worried about, man, we got a dead dude in a
4 car.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 Selling weed is the least of your worries at this
7 moment. So, your girl's gonna say the same thing,
8 dad's gonna say the same thing, mom's gonna say the
9 same thing?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 (Inaudible).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 What's your Facebook name?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I don't even really do Facebook.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 You get on it though, what's your name?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 My Facebook name is Kemontee Blocker.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 How long have you known Reggie?

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 I met Reggie that night.

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 Okay. You talk to Reggie since then?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Uh-uh (negative).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Let me ask, where was -- where was Reggie?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 When?

8 MALE VOICE:

9 When you heard the shots.

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 He was in the kitchen.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Really? Huh. That isn't what he told us.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I don't know why (inaudible). He was in the

16 kitchen.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 That's not what he said to me. Sat right there in

19 that chair.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 I'm going to ask again maybe (inaudible) the truth,

22 it's what I'd like -- did something happen that led

23 to this shooting after the drug transaction was

24 over?

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 No, nothing happened.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 Okay. Nothing that you know of?

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 Nothing that I knew of.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Okay, nothing that you were involved with?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Nothing that I was involved with. (Inaudible) after
11 that we went our separate way.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Okay. And about 10 minutes later is when you hear a
14 bunch of shots -- or about five -- that's a bunch to
15 me but --

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 Yeah.

18 MALE VOICE:

19 -- some people don't -- some people don't say that's
20 a bunch.

21 MALE VOICE:

22 So y'all got down -- did y'all go outside after
23 that?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

JURY TRIAL

1 Yeah. Me and Kevin went out the door. We looked
2 around and that's when we seen the police
3 (inaudible), so (inaudible).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 (Inaudible).

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 And I called my (inaudible).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Who'd you call?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 My granddaddy.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Your granddaddy. Is he (inaudible) New Holland?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 Uh-huh (affirmative).

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Did you call him from your phone?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 Uh-uh (negative).

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Whose phone did you call him from?

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 I called him from my girlfriend's phone.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Your girlfriend's. What's her telephone number?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 She (inaudible) TextNow.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 TextNow, okay. And that's the app, right?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Uh-huh (affirmative).

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Okay. I need to go (inaudible) something else
10 again.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 (Inaudible). All right, so we talked about the Cash
13 App, did the drug transaction, went back to the
14 apartment, 10 minutes or so later is when you hear
15 shots, hang down, everybody kind of goes out and
16 looks, cops are showing up, y'all go back inside.
17 You smoke your rest of your weed that night or...?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 Not (inaudible) girlfriend's.

20 MALE VOICE:

21 So, at the girlfriend's apartment?

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 No, I smoked (inaudible) mine.

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 With your granddad?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 (Inaudible).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Oh, she went too?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Yeah, she went.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Okay, all right. I was -- you were throwing me off
10 there for a minute, I thought granddad smoked a
11 little weed with you, I was gonna say that's a
12 pretty relationship. So you got in there, did the -
13 - did the weighing out, you took the scale with you?

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 Uh-huh (affirmative).

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Are you sure?

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 Uh-huh (affirmative).

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 That didn't happen. We've got the scale.

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 No, I have my scales.

2 MALE VOICE:

3 Well, we got a scale with your fingerprint on it in
4 the back seat.

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 (Inaudible) my scale.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 What's the chances of this guy -- did you take two?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 I probably did. I did leave another scale

11 (inaudible).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 Okay.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 'Cause I had two scales.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 All right. So you had a scale that you left in the
18 car. Why'd you leave it in the car?

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 I forgot that I had it. So, when I pick up -- I
21 picked up the scale (inaudible).

22 MALE VOICE:

23 So when you're sitting in the back seat doing the
24 weighing, you just -- you got it on the floor?

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 Yeah, I got it on the floor. I had one scale in my
3 pocket, and then had one scale. So, I put that
4 scale on (inaudible) I weighed it up (inaudible),
5 cut it up, put it in a bag, hand it to him, and I
6 put it -- and I put it in my pocket again
7 (inaudible) the other scale so that's probably why
8 --

9 MALE VOICE:

10 Okay.

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 -- I forgot about this one.

13 MALE VOICE:

14 I got you. So it was down at the floorboard
15 (inaudible) left it, just thinking you already took
16 it?

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 Uh-huh (affirmative).

19 MALE VOICE:

20 It wasn't a fact of I did it, and then something
21 happens?

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 No.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Okay. 'Cause -- did anyone (inaudible) have a gun?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 I don't know.

4 MALE VOICE:

5 JoJo or the other guy?

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 I don't know.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Did you ever see a gun?

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 Uh-huh (affirmative).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 So you do remember a gun? So, you just don't

14 remember who --

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 I don't remember seeing no gun.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 You don't remember seeing one --

19 MR. BLOCKER:

20 I remember seeing --

21 MALE VOICE:

22 You don't remember -- when you -- when you say, "I

23 don't remember" that means it could've been or it

24 could've been (inaudible)?

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 (Inaudible).

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 (Inaudible) weed. I (inaudible) weed, I didn't see
5 no gun.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 All right. Do you remember anybody talking about a
8 gun?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 No.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 Okay. Reggie ain't asking him about --

13 MR. BLOCKER:

14 (Inaudible).

15 MALE VOICE:

16 -- got any sticks for sale or --

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I was by myself. I scaled my weed up by myself.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 I'm just going to circle back a little bit. So we -
21 - we talked to Reggie two days ago, and a lot of
22 what you're saying about being by yourself just
23 isn't true. 'Cause Reggie talked to us too, okay.
24 You know, you know as well as I do 'cause

1 (inaudible) news. You know the guy driving didn't
2 die.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 Other people in the apartment.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 It's not like we say, "Hey, I wonder what happened"
7 and we go, we need to talk to Reggie and Kemontee.
8 We -- we do a lot of background before we ever get
9 to this point, because we want -- we want, when you
10 sit in that chair, you're -- I'm assuming you're not
11 a parent at 19, right? But as a parent, when you
12 parent your -- your mom and grandparents probably
13 told you this before -- when I ask you a question I
14 already know the answer to it because how do you
15 know if you're lying or not, right. 'Cause you
16 could come in and say, "Hey, I don't know nothing.
17 I don't know (inaudible) yeah, I don't know nothing"
18 but if we don't have that back -- the backdrop of
19 it, then we don't know if you're lying to us or not.
20 But when we've done all this back work to have you
21 here and go, "Hey man, where were you Saturday
22 night, Sunday morning when -- when JoJo got shot and
23 killed? You go, I don't know I wasn't there," well
24 we know that's a lie, that's why we kept asking, all

JURY TRIAL

1 right. The same thing here. We know you weren't by
2 yourself, okay. We've already talked to Reggie. He
3 told us a lot, okay. So, if there's this code of "I
4 ain't telling anything to anybody or whatever" I
5 don't -- I don't know what's -- I don't know what's
6 got that block up for you of not telling us that you
7 weren't by yourself. I can't make you say
8 something, all right. I just want the truth of
9 really what truly took place (inaudible).

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 I told y'all (inaudible).

12 MALE VOICE:

13 'Cause dude's there buying a little weed, and then
14 the next thing that happens is he's dead, okay.

15 MR. BLOCKER:

16 He bought weed from me and I left.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 Okay.

19 MALE VOICE:

20 You (inaudible) so -- so Reggie's lying?

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 I never said he was lying. I don't know what he's
23 told you.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Okay, well we're trying to -- I mean, we're giving
2 you a little bit of what he said. I'm just not
3 going to tell you everything, that's not fair to you
4 or him. But, the flip side is, that y'all weren't
5 by yourself -- or you weren't by yourself, and he
6 wasn't by himself. I'd just like -- I would like to
7 know how what happened -- just so I have -- 'cause I
8 have a theory in my head of what happened, but I
9 think it's probably the most --

10 MALE VOICE:

11 (Inaudible) intentional.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 It's probably the most plausible of why it happened
14 -- of what -- why I think it happened that way. I
15 just wasn't there and somebody (inaudible) -- you
16 went to high school, you know what a hypothesis is,
17 right? An educated guess about what you think
18 happened. That's what I think my hypothesis is. I
19 just would like to hear it from you of really, what
20 truly happened because I know you weren't by
21 yourself.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 That's just the beginning of the evidence.

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 Yeah, I mean, it's like I said, I -- I don't think
2 any of y'all set out when this drug transaction was
3 gonna occur, that there was gonna be a shooting,
4 right?

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 I sold the weed and I went back with my girlfriend.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 Okay, and so that -- that's what I'm saying. I
9 don't think anybody was thinking, "Hey, we're going
10 to do this weed and we're gonna shoot." I know that
11 wasn't the case. I feel pretty confident in knowing
12 that without being there, okay. And there's some
13 reasons why I feel that way, and it wouldn't be fair
14 for me to say why I feel that way, okay. But I've
15 been doing this long enough to know that when those
16 things occur like that, and then boom, we got
17 something bad happened -- something happened to get
18 to that. And I think what happened -- I'll give you
19 a little rundown, you tell me if I'm right. I think
20 based on -- on the other statements that we've
21 gotten, is that one of the people in the car let
22 somebody hold a gun -- trying to sell it or thinking
23 about selling it. Sound familiar?

24 MR. BLOCKER:

1 Uh-uh (negative).

2 MALE VOICE:

3 No? Okay. So, when the drug transaction is over
4 like, "Hey, give me my gun back. I ain't gonna give
5 you your gun back." "You need to give my gun back."
6 "Fuck you, I ain't giving the gun back." "You gave
7 me this gun." And then guns are shown, and now
8 we've got a shooting. Is that right?

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Uh-uh (negative).

11 MALE VOICE:

12 Okay, so what happened?

13 MR. BLOCKER:

14 I told y'all what happened. I served him -- I
15 served JoJo some weed, got out of the car, went
16 back, and played drunk UNO with my girlfriend.

17 MALE VOICE:

18 Okay. Earlier when you said you were worried about
19 getting locked up for weed.

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 Uh-huh (affirmative).

22 MALE VOICE:

23 You probably need to be worried about getting locked
24 up for murder.

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 I had nothing to do with that.

3 MALE VOICE:

4 Okay. Well, you do. 'Cause we got enough evidence

5 to put you there when the shooting occurred, to

6 charge you with murder, even if you didn't pull a

7 gun. I would just -- for your sake -- our sake, and

8 the family's sake of why it happened. Even if you

9 walked off, and Reggie come and does it hisself.

10 There's a conversation that happens on why it took

11 place. Okay? So did Reggie do it?

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 I don't know what happened.

14 MALE VOICE:

15 Kemontee.

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 Sir?

18 MALE VOICE:

19 There is way too much stuff that puts you there,

20 when the shooting --

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 I admit to serving the weed.

23 MALE VOICE:

24 Okay, and I'm --

1 MR. BLOCKER:

2 (Inaudible).

3 MALE VOICE:

4 -- I'm not worried about that.

5 MR. BLOCKER:

6 (Inaudible) shooting 'cause I was in the house.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 This -- this serving of weed.

9 MR. BLOCKER:

10 Yeah.

11 MALE VOICE:

12 Okay, it's unfortunate it leads up to that, I agree.

13 MR. BLOCKER:

14 I was in the house.

15 MALE VOICE:

16 Okay.

17 MR. BLOCKER:

18 I have --

19 MALE VOICE:

20 But --

21 MR. BLOCKER:

22 -- witnesses that will come here, and tell you I was

23 in the house.

24 MALE VOICE:

JURY TRIAL

1 We -- we also have witnesses that will --

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 (Inaudible).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 We also have witnesses that will come in this room -
6 - and already has -- and says you were standing
7 beside that red car shooting a gun.

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 I was inside the house.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 Okay. All right. Best of luck to you. We're going
12 to talk to the people you said that will tell us
13 that -- for your benefit and ours, okay. And -- and
14 hopefully they don't lie to us 'cause we'll be able
15 to tell if they're lying or not. And if they are,
16 then if you talk to them before we do, and they
17 telling us a lie, you might want to warn them that
18 we gonna lock them up for lying to us in a murder
19 investigation if they do. Okay? And then, they get
20 charged just like they were there that night as
21 well, okay -- I -- I think you're a great kid. I
22 think a bad decision was made, and something
23 happened that got everybody startled and in a tizzy
24 and ultimately made another bad decision, and guns

1 started getting fired; not understanding the
2 consequences of firing a gun, you know. But like I
3 said, I've never met you before. I really think
4 you're a good guy. I really do. I have a bunch of
5 respect for you, okay. Because it is hard to be in
6 the position you were in, knowing that somebody that
7 you just served somebody weed and got killed, and --
8 and you came around to that, and owned up to it. So
9 I do have a lot of respect for you for -- for being
10 honest when you were, okay. But I also know in
11 doing this job, that you're trying to distance
12 yourself from that shooting part of it, even though
13 I feel like you were there.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I wasn't there.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Okay, okay. I wasn't -- so I can't say for 100
18 percent sure. I can't put words in your mouth,
19 okay. But what I can say is the evidence that we
20 have -- that's -- that's what we go by, you know, we
21 don't just say, "I wonder who we might we need to go
22 look at for that shooting," and just starting
23 picking out names. We go with the -- we go with
24 what the evidence laid out in front of us looks

JURY TRIAL

1 like. Do you watch TV shows? Crime TV shows?

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 Uh-huh (affirmative).

4 MALE VOICE:

5 Like -- tell me what you watch.

6 MR. BLOCKER:

7 Criminal Minds.

8 MALE VOICE:

9 Okay, so you know how in Criminal Minds they start -
10 - they pick up a little something from something
11 somebody says -- this time and then they pick up a
12 little piece from some -- from the crime scene and
13 then -- then they remember, oh, well this person did
14 this before, and so it kind of circles all back to
15 the same person, okay. It's a big piece -- it's a
16 big puzzle. So, basically all the evidence just
17 gets thrown out, and no -- we don't know where all
18 of it is, okay. There's a crime scene that's got
19 evidence. There's apartments that have evidence.
20 There's cars that have evidence. There's people
21 that have evidence, and we got to go find all them
22 little pieces and start recreating that puzzle --
23 what took place when that shooting occurred that
24 killed him, all right. But the bad thing is when

1 you put the puzzle together -- what's the first
2 thing you do? Dump all the pieces out, right. Then
3 what do you do?

4 MR. BLOCKER:

5 You look for the piece.

6 MALE VOICE:

7 You look for the pieces but you -- don't you
8 normally turn the picture up like that, so you know
9 what you're trying to make it look like, and then
10 you start closing that in, right? You typically
11 work on the edges 'cause they're the easiest --
12 'cause it's got the flat edge. And so you hopefully
13 make a barrier, you start working it all in, right.

14 Well that's kind of what we try to do as well but
15 we just don't know when that barrier ends. And so,
16 when people have little pieces, we start going back
17 into the pile and seeing where they fit, okay. And
18 that's why the Cash App thing is a piece. Doesn't
19 mean you killed him, but it leads up to that. And
20 the evidence helps suggest that after the drug --
21 drug transaction was over something went bad and
22 that's what led to him getting shot and killed.
23 Okay? And I have a hard time also believing that
24 after that shooting occurred is when you say,

JURY TRIAL

1 "Reggie was inside with you," Reggie says, "I wasn't
2 even there," that there's no conversation. So,
3 that's just me. That's my job (inaudible). My job
4 -- it's -- it's our job to figure it out, okay. Any
5 questions for us? All right. I'm going to go make
6 sure we got everything, and we'll come back in in
7 just a second, all right? Make sure we got
8 everything done.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 All right, we about finished. Let me get you this
11 form. I want to finish with this, okay. I asked in
12 the very beginning for truth and there's -- there's
13 multiple reasons why I ask for that okay. 'Cause --
14 just a little bit, first you didn't -- you didn't
15 know anything about -- you don't know Reggie.

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 I still don't know anything about --

18 MALE VOICE:

19 Okay, all right.

20 MR. BLOCKER:

21 -- (inaudible) shooting.

22 MALE VOICE:

23 I'm just telling you from where we're coming from,
24 okay. You don't know Reggie. You -- your

1 girlfriend, you don't really know her name. She
2 lives across the street in a two-story house and
3 then that all -- think about all that is, that's the
4 stories that you have told us, okay. And then now
5 we're a little bit better, at least you know you
6 told us where she lives. But if you don't have
7 anything to hide --

8 MR. BLOCKER:

9 I don't.

10 MALE VOICE:

11 You told --

12 MR. BLOCKER:

13 That's why I told you --

14 MALE VOICE:

15 -- a bunch of stuff -- but hear me -- just let me
16 talk, okay, and then -- then I'll let you speak,
17 okay. There are good people and bad people, that's
18 what I tell everybody. Good people and bad people.
19 Bad people always do stuff wrong, because they don't
20 care. You have a good person that kind of makes a
21 decision here and there, and makes some mistakes but
22 is still a good person, okay. That's who Kemontee
23 has to decide who he is. You understand what I'm
24 saying?

JURY TRIAL

1 MALE VOICE:

2 What about the scale?

3 MR. BLOCKER:

4 The scale? That's my scale. I left it.

5 MALE VOICE:

6 All right, why -- why'd you leave it?

7 MR. BLOCKER:

8 'Cause I have two scales.

9 MALE VOICE:

10 So why leave one?

11 MR. BLOCKER:

12 'Cause I (inaudible).

13 MALE VOICE:

14 If -- if -- hold on, hold on. If you come with two,
15 don't you want to leave with two?

16 MR. BLOCKER:

17 I thought when I checked my pocket, I thought I had
18 (inaudible). I thought my other one was in
19 (inaudible).

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Okay.

22 MR. BLOCKER:

23 And that's why I accidentally left it.

24 MALE VOICE:

1 Okay.

2 MR. BLOCKER:

3 I thought that one was (inaudible) 'cause when I
4 checked my pocket, I looked down, I didn't see
5 (inaudible) okay, my scale (inaudible) I'm gonna get
6 out and go.

7 MALE VOICE:

8 When you said that you weighed the dope on the
9 scale...

10 MR. BLOCKER:

11 Yeah.

12 MALE VOICE:

13 And you turned the scale off.

14 MR. BLOCKER:

15 I picked it up.

16 MALE VOICE:

17 Okay. So --

18 MR. BLOCKER:

19 That's (inaudible) that was my think (inaudible).

20 MALE VOICE:

21 Well -- well, if you knew enough to tell us you
22 turned it off, then you would know enough that you
23 picked it up and took it, but you didn't do that,
24 okay. So --

JURY TRIAL

1 (The video stops playing)

2 BY MR. RITTGERS:

3 Q. Detective Eagerton, I know you did the Miranda
4 warning with the Defendant, but just to clarify a couple
5 things that happened in there -- the other detective in
6 the picture that was Detective Hembree?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Who had come in and testified previously -- and then
9 the piece of paper that you put in front of the
10 Defendant, that was a printout of the Cash App

11 transactions that he extracted from Mr. Copeland's phone?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. Okay. And then the person at the very end, that was
14 Lieutenant Griffin who testified about lifting the print
15 from the scale?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And so based on all the evidence that you had
18 gathered in the investigation, at this point only one
19 warrant had been issued for murder; is that correct?

20 A. I believe I just did one initially.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. And then we did the rest after they were arrested.

23 Q. And so then, based on the other things that you had
24 found, you issued the other warrants for attempted murder

1 of Micheal Allen who was also in the vehicle, right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And then also for the armed robbery?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And then for possession of a weapon during a violent
6 crime?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And for discharging a firearm in the vehicle?

9 A. Yes.

10 MR. RITTGERS: Thank you for your time. I
11 think that's all I've got for you. The Defense may
12 have some questions.

13 MS. STEINER: Can we please take a quick
14 comfort break?

15 THE COURT: Can y'all approach for a second?

16 (Bench conference off the
17 record.)

18 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury,
19 we're trying to figure out logistics here and try to
20 certainly be mindful of your time. I anticipate the
21 cross-examination, of course I can't control that,
22 or the attorneys really can't control if they start
23 -- it'd be about 15, 20 minutes and then of course
24 the State would have an opportunity for any

JURY TRIAL

1 redirect. I'm going to leave it up to you whether
2 you need a quick comfort break and we can finish
3 with detective's testimony this evening, and then
4 start back up in the morning. I anticipate that
5 this is likely the last witness for the State. They
6 haven't rested yet, but I'm anticipating that if
7 it's not it will be early in the morning, and then
8 we will continue with the trial. Obviously, we want
9 to try to finish tomorrow. So, I'm going to leave
10 it in your -- I'll leave it up to you. Do y'all
11 want to recess for the evening -- we can pick up in
12 the morning, or do you want to take a quick comfort
13 break and power through the last of this witness?

14 UNIDENTIFIED JUROR: Can we just not take a
15 comfort break and just keep going, so would that be
16 an option for you guys? I'd rather just keep going.

17 THE COURT: Everybody wants to keep going?

18 UNIDENTIFIED JUROR: Yes.

19 THE COURT: All right, Ms. Steiner, you run
20 out and come back.

21 (Off the record.)

22 (Recess.)

23 (On the record.)

24 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

1 MS. STEINER: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

3 MS. STEINER: Thank you everyone. I can
4 report happily that it stopped raining.

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION

6 BY MS. STEINER:

7 Q. Good afternoon. Almost 30 years in law enforcement?

8 A. No, 25.

9 Q. Twenty-five.

10 A. With the department 29.

11 Q. All right. That's impressive, congratulations on
12 that. With all of your over 25 years of experience, you
13 have had a lot of training, right?

14 A. Sure.

15 Q. And in all of your training experience everything
16 basically tells you to be as thorough as possible, right?

17 A. Sure.

18 Q. As part of you being a detective, you have to write
19 reports, right?

20 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).

21 Q. And put all the important details in those, right?

22 A. Sure.

23 Q. Kind of want to back up to how you got into this
24 case. You got into it the next day; is that right? Or

JURY TRIAL

1 the same day --

2 A. Same day, just later in the morning.

3 Q. And all of the information that everyone else
4 collected, that all eventually came to you, right?

5 A. At some point, yes, ma'am.

6 Q. 'Cause you're the head guy in this case, right?

7 A. Right.

8 Q. So, you're "top of the food chain" essentially for
9 this case?

10 A. Your words.

11 Q. Okay. On April 25th, Micheal Allen was -- spoken to
12 a bunch of people at the hospital, correct?

13 A. I'd say a few.

14 Q. Okay. And the State had asked you before about him
15 being released from the hospital. Micheal Allen was
16 never admitted to the hospital, right?

17 A. No, he was never a patient to my knowledge.

18 Q. Okay. He was just able to leave the hospital area?

19 A. Right. I believe it was determined that he was
20 going to come back at a later time that day for a full
21 interview.

22 Q. Okay. So he wasn't under arrest and he was able to
23 leave, right?

24 A. Correct.

1 Q. Okay, just wanted to clear that up. So now, when he
2 came back later in the afternoon, that's when y'all sat
3 down and had a conversation?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You said this, but just want to be clear -- he
6 wasn't ever in handcuffs? He wasn't ever arrested?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Now, when you talked to him on April 25th, 2021, he
9 said that, "There were two people involved in the
10 incident," right?

11 A. In my interview?

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And in your interview on April 25th, 2021, he said
15 that he recognized one person, right?

16 A. Yes, I don't know if that -- that was his words but,
17 yes, it was somebody that he -- he knew or knew of -- had
18 seen before.

19 Q. Someone that looked familiar?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And that's the guy that, for lack of a better term,
22 "served them the weed?"

23 A. I believe so, yes, ma'am.

24 Q. He's the guy that had the scale and bagged up the

JURY TRIAL

1 weed just like normal?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And then there was a second guy, right?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And this guy was the one --

6 MR. RITTGERS: Your Honor, objection, this is
7 more hearsay. The Defense had ample opportunity to
8 cross-examine Micheal Allen, when he was a witness
9 and now we're trying to just elicit a whole bunch of
10 out-of-court statements and, you know, cross-examine
11 a person who isn't on the stand.

12 THE COURT: What's your position?

13 MS. STEINER: Your Honor, I'm asking about his
14 investigation, and the information that he learned,
15 and how he proceeded in his investigation.

16 THE COURT: I'll allow it.

17 MS. STEINER: Thank you.

18 BY MS. STEINER:

19 Q. So, in your interview with Micheal Allen, he then
20 discussed a second guy, right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And that second guy was the Reggie or Richie guy?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And that ultimately became Reggie Jones?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And that's the guy that we have in one of the photo
3 lineups -- I think he's identified as person number
4 three?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. And Micheal Allen told you all, that it was -- this
7 Reggie or Richie guy, that JoJo handed over the gun to?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. And then Reggie Jones was the one that first shot?

10 A. He made that statement, but also he clarified and
11 said that that's what he believed.

12 Q. And he also believed that that was the guy that shot
13 his brother?

14 A. Yes, he did state that also.

15 Q. I want to jump forward now to when you spoke with
16 Micheal Allen on April 27th, 2021, and that's after he
17 saw the photo lineups, right?

18 A. Right.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. That's the same interview he did the lineups, I
21 believe.

22 Q. Right.

23 A. The second interview, yes.

24 Q. Yeah, but that's the 27th date?

JURY TRIAL

1 A. Right.

2 Q. Okay. And on the 27th, that's when you were
3 clarifying kind of who did what, and the transaction
4 after he looked at the lineups and identified people,
5 right?

6 A. That was discussed.

7 Q. And it was determined that the guy in lineup number
8 four, was the one that looked spooked like he didn't know
9 what the hell just happened?

10 A. I remember that being said at some point. I don't
11 know what part of the interview that was.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. Or which interview.

14 Q. All right. And then he also said that number three
15 was the shooter, and that he believed killed his brother?

16 A. Yes, that was -- that was -- that statement was
17 made.

18 Q. Okay. And then when he spoke with Mr. Allen, all
19 the times that you spoke with him, he never said anything
20 about anyone saying any insults about not having guns?

21 A. One more time?

22 Q. He didn't have any -- he didn't comment on anyone
23 insulting them about not having guns? You never heard
24 that before when you interviewed him in 2021?

1 A. I believe he did say something in the interview
2 about that.

3 Q. That was insulting?

4 A. It -- that the two Defendants -- the suspects, said
5 something to -- towards JoJo and Micheal Allen; is that
6 what you're asking?

7 Q. That was insulting about them not having guns.
8 Essentially what he said -- did he tell you --

9 A. What I'm saying is Blocker and Jones made those
10 comments towards JoJo and Micheal Allen?

11 Q. Let me back up for a second. In 2021, did Micheal
12 Allen ever tell you that someone said, "Y'all are P words
13 for not having guns?"

14 A. Who do you mean someone? I believe that that
15 statement was made in some -- I don't know exact wording,
16 but I believe he did discuss that in the first or second
17 interview.

18 Q. Okay. Now I want to talk about, just very briefly,
19 'cause it was alluded to in Mr. Blocker's interview --
20 when you interviewed Mr. Blocker, Reggie Jones was
21 already arrested, right?

22 A. Correct, two days prior.

23 Q. And then the interview that we just watched of Mr.
24 Blocker, that was all one thing, even though it's on

JURY TRIAL

1 different files -- it was all one interview?

2 A. Right, there was some skip but yes, it was all -- it
3 was less than two hours total.

4 Q. And that was his only interview, right?

5 A. Mr. Blocker, yes, ma'am.

6 Q. Okay. No further questions.

7 THE COURT: Any redirect?

8 MR. RITTGERS: Yes, Your Honor.

9 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. RITTGERS:

11 Q. All right, so Detective Eagerton, Ms. Steiner was
12 asking you about whether Mr. Allen came back later in the
13 day on the 25th of April -- the day of the shooting, and
14 asking whether he gave a full interview. But he did give
15 a full interview at that time, with everything that you
16 had at that point, right?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. It was only when you brought him later -- after you
19 had an idea of who the suspects might be?

20 A. Correct. We called him and he came in for a follow-
21 up interview.

22 Q. And that one's for the purpose of doing the lineups
23 that you did to identify those folks?

24 A. Correct, we had received more information from the

1 phones.

2 Q. The scale?

3 A. And the scale and the -- and then had enough for --
4 we had names to support a live-photo lineup, and so we
5 brought him back.

6 Q. And then Ms. Steiner was talking about how the gun
7 went to Reggie but as I recall Micheal Allen's testimony,
8 the gun was given to Blocker first, and there was a
9 comparing of the lasers, and then I think he traded guns
10 at one point -- and there was comparing of the lasers and
11 then Mr. Blocker got the gun back but didn't give JoJo's
12 gun back to him -- and then Blocker passed the gun --

13 MS. STEINER: Objection.

14 BY MR. RITTGERS:

15 Q. -- to Reggie. That's how I recalled that.

16 THE COURT: You opened the door by asking the
17 question of the investigation of what Mr. Allen said
18 so I'll allow it.

19 THE WITNESS:

20 A. There was a conversation about those facts, of
21 swapping of the guns. Without looking at my notes, I
22 can't remember if Blocker or Jones both had it or not, at
23 the moment you're describing.

24 Q. Okay. So we'll just move on to the whole, you know

JURY TRIAL

1 -- whether -- who fired first. Now, Micheal Allen told
2 you that Reggie Jones ran away, firing back behind
3 himself first, right?

4 A. Correct, to the right.

5 Q. Right. And then he said that the other guy, now
6 identified as Blocker, went to the front of the vehicle
7 from Mr. Allen's perspective and then fired into the
8 vehicle?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. And it was at that point through the windshield,
11 that he described JoJo getting hit at that point in the
12 gunfight?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Okay. And then Ms. Steiner was also talking about
15 insulting the two -- Jones and Blocker insulting JoJo and
16 Micheal Allen in the car, you know, calling them names
17 because they didn't have guns. And I know that that's --
18 terminology was used here, but in the interview with you,
19 I seem to recall Micheal Allen describing the two men
20 outside the car as asking the guys inside the car, if
21 they were "sticked up," does that ring a bell?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And "sticked up," meaning whether they were carrying
24 firearms or not?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. And so, there was some discussion that Mr. Allen did
3 give you in the first interview about the two gentlemen
4 outside the car, Blocker and Jones, asking the victim if
5 he had a firearm?

6 A. Correct.

7 MR. RITTGERS: All right. I don't have
8 anything further for you. Thank you for your time.

9 THE COURT: You may step down, Detective.
10 Thank you. Does the State anticipate calling any
11 other witnesses?

12 MS. HAMMACK: No, Your Honor. At this time
13 the State rests.

14 THE COURT: Thank you, Solicitor. Ladies and
15 gentlemen of the jury, the State has rested their
16 case and it's time for us to take our evening
17 recess. Please remember that it is extremely
18 important that although the State has rested their
19 case, the trial is not over, you have not been
20 charged on the law or heard the closing arguments of
21 Counsel, so please be mindful not to discuss this
22 case with anyone or amongst yourselves or do any
23 independent research on it. Have a nice evening.
24 We'll see you again. If you could be here a couple

JURY TRIAL

1 MS. STEINER: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right, let's have our jury,
3 please. You may have a seat. Good morning, ladies
4 and gentlemen of the jury. Thank you for your
5 patience this morning. I promise you, we've been
6 here working, trying to streamline things for you to
7 be more mindful of your time as we proceed. We are
8 now ready to proceed. Is the Defense intending to
9 introduce any evidence?

10 MR. BUSH: The Defense rests, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: All right, sir, thank you. Ladies
12 and gentlemen of the jury, both sides have rested
13 their case. Please pay close attention that it is
14 now time for the closing arguments of Counsel.
15 Solicitor?

16 MS. HAMMACK: Thank you, Your Honor. "If you
17 don't have nothing to hide, you'll tell the truth,
18 right?" Those were his words on May 5th, 2021, 10
19 days after 18-year-old Joseph Copeland was gunned
20 down, was murdered, across the street from the
21 middle school that he had just attended a few years
22 prior. Ten days after that murder, that man, the
23 Defendant, looked police officers in the eye and
24 said, if you don't have nothing to hide, you'll tell

1 the truth, right? So, if you'll tell the truth when
2 you have nothing to hide, what do you do when you do
3 have something to hide? You lie. He had a choice
4 and he chose to lie. He chose to lie because he had
5 something to hide.

6 Now, there are certain things that happened in
7 the evening of Saturday, April 24th, 2021, into the
8 early morning hours of Sunday, April 25th, that are
9 not in dispute, that you can consider as fact
10 because nobody is saying otherwise.

11 Things that we know to be true include one:
12 That Joseph Copeland, his best friend Micheal Allen,
13 went over to the Stoney-Gallman apartment homes here
14 in Aiken County, across from Schofield Middle,
15 shortly before midnight.

16 We know that on the way there Joseph Copeland
17 was texting with Reggie Jones about buying some
18 marijuana. Those messages off of JoJo's phone are
19 in evidence, you can see them, no one's saying that
20 didn't happen. We know that right after midnight on
21 Sunday, April 25th, that JoJo sent \$60 to the
22 Defendant on Cash App. You have the Cash App
23 transaction, it was entered into evidence, the text
24 notification that those funds were received, his

JURY TRIAL

1 name on the phone, just after midnight. And we know
2 that just minutes after JoJo sent that money to the
3 Defendant he was dead. He was dead from a gunshot
4 wound, that center mass, that tore through his heart
5 and lodged in his spine, and that he died very
6 quickly.

7 Now, as a result of this incident, this
8 Defendant and Reggie Jones, have been charged with
9 murder, attempted murder, armed robbery, possession
10 of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime
11 and discharging a firearm into a vehicle.

12 For you today, your decisions, your verdict,
13 has to do with Kemontee Blocker. Reggie Jones will
14 have his day in court and that is for another jury
15 to think about, another jury to decide. Today we
16 are here for Kemontee Blocker, in his role in the
17 murder of Joseph Copeland and the attempted murder
18 of Micheal Allen.

19 So before we go into the testimony and the
20 evidence that you've heard this week, I want to talk
21 to you a little bit about each of those charges.
22 Now, after closing arguments, the judge is going to
23 instruct you on what the law is. And she's going to
24 tell you what the elements of those charges are and

1 what my responsibility is to prove to you beyond a
2 reasonable doubt. But I want to give you a little
3 bit of a guideline as we go through the evidence and
4 the testimony, so you know what to look for.

5 First, murder, in South Carolina, murder is the
6 killing of another with malice aforethought.
7 Lawyers like to complicate things and use words that
8 sound fancy, but let me tell you what that means.
9 The killing of another is pretty straightforward,
10 right? With malice aforethought. Now, when we hear
11 malice aforethought and we hear murder, a lot of
12 times people think what you see on TV where
13 somebody's down in their basement, and they've been
14 planning this event for months, and they've got
15 those pictures on the wall and strings all over the
16 wall, and they've got this elaborate plan. That's
17 not what malice aforethought is and that's not
18 required for murder in South Carolina.

19 So first, malice, it's just an intention act.
20 It's the intentional act that's a wrongful act,
21 without reason and with the intent to harm, to cause
22 an injury. So, intentionally trying to hurt
23 somebody is malice. And then aforethought, that's
24 that whole, does this have to be planned, do we have

JURY TRIAL

1 to have this secret scheme down in the basement
2 somewhere? No. What the judge is going to tell you
3 is that to prove malice aforethought for murder,
4 that that malice -- that intent to do an act that
5 causes harm can be formed just before and at the
6 time of the act. So, in that moment, that malice
7 can be formed. It doesn't have to be planned for
8 weeks and months.

9 In that moment of making a decision to raise a
10 gun, to aim a gun, and to fire at an intended target
11 is sufficient for malice aforethought. Malice
12 aforethought doesn't have to be in words, you don't
13 have to tell somebody, "Hey, I'm going to try to
14 kill you. This is what I'm going to do right now."
15 Just like Ms. Steiner told you at the beginning of
16 the week, you guys have common sense. Part of that
17 common sense is that you can infer from the way
18 somebody acts of what they're trying to do.

19 The second crime is attempted murder and this
20 is similar, but in attempted murder, obviously
21 somebody doesn't die, but murder is intended. And
22 so the State has to prove to you that Kemontee
23 Blocker, intended or tried to kill Micheal Allen.
24 And again, he doesn't have to say in words or write

1 and sign his signature saying, "I'm trying to kill
2 you." It can be inferred by actions. It can be
3 inferred by things such, as hitting exactly where
4 you're aiming.

5 Shooting somebody in the head would certainly
6 kill them. Aiming and firing a shot into the
7 headrest where Micheal Allen's head had been moments
8 earlier, is intent to kill.

9 Next is armed robbery. An armed robbery is the
10 taking of something that's not yours and doing it
11 while armed. Pretty easy. Having a gun, showing a
12 gun, getting JoJo's gun from him, and then not
13 giving it back, is armed robbery. We still don't
14 know where that gun is.

15 Possession of a weapon during the commission of
16 a violent crime again, is another set of lawyer
17 words. And all that means is that you have a gun at
18 the time that you commit a violent crime. We tend
19 to think of violent as an adjective describing how
20 somebody acted, but in the law there's an actual
21 category of violent crimes. And the judge is going
22 to tell you that murder is in that category. So if
23 you have a gun while you commit murder, you're
24 guilty of possession of a weapon during a violent

JURY TRIAL

1 crime.

2 And then lastly, discharging a firearm into a
3 vehicle. I think you guys got that one. It's
4 shooting into a vehicle while that vehicle is
5 occupied. Those are the charges before you today
6 for you to consider for Kemontee Blocker.

7 Now I told you that Reggie Jones will have his
8 own day in court with his own jury, but what's
9 important to consider, and what a judge is going to
10 tell you is that there is a concept of law called
11 the hand of one is the hand of all. And that is
12 when two people are acting together, each of those
13 people are also responsible for what the other one
14 does. So if both people are firing and there's a
15 question as to which bullet actually stopped Joseph
16 Copeland's heart, he is responsible for the bullets
17 coming out of Reggie Jones' gun, and he's
18 responsible for the bullets coming out of his gun.
19 The hand of one is the hand of all.

20 Just like with your (inaudible) that intent for
21 hand of one, hand of all can be shown by your
22 actions and by your conduct, and we're going to go
23 through Kemontee Blocker's actions, and we're going
24 to talk about the fact he had a choice over, and

1 over, and over again -- he had a choice. And his
2 choices make him just as responsible as anything
3 Reggie Jones did.

4 Now, members of the jury, I told you that on
5 May 5th, 2021, that the Defendant said, "If you
6 don't have nothing to hide you'll tell the truth,
7 right?" Well let's talk about what we heard from
8 both the Defendant and from Micheal Allen. Micheal
9 Allen got up here and testified and he told y'all
10 all the things that everybody agrees are true, that
11 nobody is disputing. That he and JoJo got in his
12 car, went to the Bricks, the Stoney-Gallman
13 apartment homes, to buy some weed. They got some
14 weed. The picture is in evidence, that weed that
15 will never be smoked, that was lying in the
16 passenger floorboard of the
17 car, that law enforcement found after Joseph was
18 murdered.

19 You know, like Micheal Allen said, "That JoJo
20 paid for the weed." He paid for it by Cash App,
21 handed his phone to that guy who got to choose where
22 the money went, and he chose himself. And then
23 Micheal Allen told you everything changed.

24 At the beginning of this trial Ms. Steiner

JURY TRIAL

1 said, "That the Defendant only signed up to sell
2 some weed." Well once the weed transaction was
3 over, the Defendant's actions tell you a different
4 story. He had a choice in that moment. He had his
5 \$60. The weed was sold. If he had only signed up
6 to sell some weed, why did he stick around? Why
7 didn't he leave? But Micheal Allen told you he
8 didn't leave. That he stayed right there by the
9 window of the car, with Reggie Jones, that the two
10 of them started talking to Micheal and Joe about
11 guns. Micheal told you that that Defendant
12 specifically insulted them because they didn't have
13 guns. And so at that point Joe said, "Well, I'm
14 cool, I've got a gun, look at it. Here, you want to
15 see it? You want to hold it?" And Joseph gives him
16 his gun. Micheal Allen told you that this Defendant
17 had a gun. You know, it wasn't just any gun. In
18 fact, it was a really specific, really unusual gun.
19 It was red. And not only was it red, it had a laser
20 on it. Micheal Allen told you that some time had
21 passed, I think he said from the witness stand,
22 ":hey were wasting time, he was ready to go." He
23 told Joe, "Get your gun back, let's go." Well that
24 wasn't part of the plan, that gun wasn't coming

1 back, because the last words out of Joseph
2 Copeland's mouth was give me my gun back. And
3 instead of getting his gun back, Reggie Jones and
4 this Defendant shot into the car. You saw the
5 pictures. You heard the testimony. There were nine
6 shots that entered that car. Two shots came out of
7 the car from Micheal Allen. But nine entered the
8 car, hitting the hood, hitting the driver's seat
9 headrest, peppering the windshield, hitting Joseph
10 Copeland twice, tearing through his algebra homework
11 in the back seat, lodging into a speaker in the
12 trunk.

13 Micheal told you that he, "Grabbed his best
14 friend's hand, reversed the car and went as fast as
15 he could to the hospital." Dr. Rose told you, "It
16 wouldn't have made a difference, that Joseph was
17 dead." But Micheal Allen also sat here and told you
18 the same thing he told law enforcement, "That on the
19 way to the hospital he took those guns that they
20 had, threw them in the bushes." Now, it's
21 interesting is that six times during the trial with
22 different people the Defense kept asking, "Well
23 Micheal Allen didn't tell you he fired." Micheal
24 Allen didn't tell you that he shot guns. And most

JURY TRIAL

1 of these people that they asked that of, were police
2 officers that were at the hospital while (inaudible)
3 emergent care nurses and doctors were trying to save
4 Joseph's life, while Micheal was sitting in bloody
5 clothes after carrying his best friend to the doors
6 of the emergency room. And they kept asking, "Well
7 he didn't tell you about firing guns or hiding
8 guns."

9 That same day, once Micheal had gotten a chance
10 to take off his bloody clothes, he sat down with law
11 enforcement and immediately told them both of those
12 things. When you get a chance to determine who's
13 lying versus who's telling the truth, who's
14 believable or not, on that same day that Joseph got
15 murdered and Micheal Allen told the cops, "Here's
16 where I put those guns after I fired back at the
17 people that killed my best friend," while he's still
18 sitting in that room, law enforcement leaves and
19 goes straight there and guess what they find, they
20 find the guns exactly where Micheal told them they
21 would be. He didn't hide anything. If you don't
22 have nothing to hid, you tell the truth, right?

23 Now we have Micheal's story of what happened.
24 But then you also got to hear the Defendant's story

1 about what happened. And while we think about that
2 whole "If you have nothing to hide, you'll tell the
3 truth," let's look at what the Defendant actually
4 said. He had 10 days from the time of this incident
5 to decide what he was going to tell police, and what
6 he came up with first was this" "I was at New
7 Holland Saturday night. I wasn't even at the
8 apartment complex. My family bought everything in
9 the Kroger, and we had a cookout. He listed out all
10 the food that he ate. Me and my girlfriend were
11 over there." That's a lie. We know it's a lie
12 because he ended up admitting that it was a lie.
13 The science tells
14 you that was a lie.

15 Three times after that he says, "My girlfriend
16 can verify where I was. We were in the country."
17 Three times, that's a lie. You heard from his
18 girlfriend. She didn't come to verify that he was
19 out in the country. She wasn't with him. You heard
20 from her and her father who said, "Yeah, he was
21 there earlier in the day but at bedtime everybody's
22 got to go." And he left somewhere between 8:00 and
23 9:00, hours before this shooting. Kevin James told
24 you he went up to bed and he and his wife were

JURY TRIAL

1 sitting in bed talking, when the shots rang out. He
2 came
3 running downstairs and the only person downstairs
4 was Shy'Tavia. Not Kemontee Walker. Not Reggie
5 Jones.

6 There was no drunk Uno game going on. And
7 Shy'Tavia told you the same thing, she said she
8 "Never saw Kemontee Blocker after 8:00 or 9:00 that
9 night." So that's a lie.

10 Six times at just the first part of the
11 interview when we're in story number one -- six
12 times the Defendant says, "I wasn't there." Lie,
13 lie, lie, lie, lie, lie. In that same story six
14 times he says, "I don't know Reggie. I've never met
15 him." Lies. He told law enforcement, they asked
16 him, "Do you sell drugs? No." Lie. "I don't have
17 a Cash App in my name." Lie. "I don't hang out at
18 the Bricks." Lie. If you don't have nothing --
19 before he says the words if you don't have nothing
20 to hide you'll tell the truth, right? He had lied
21 over 19 times before those words came out of his
22 mouth. But then the Defendant ran into a problem,
23 because he had told this story and these 19-plus
24 lies, but then law enforcement said, "Well, the

1 problem for you is we've got some evidence." And so
2 then he had to come up with a second story to fit
3 the evidence. He couldn't deny this Cash App in his
4 name and the money sent to him, that was digitally
5 removed from a phone. He couldn't deny his
6 fingerprint on a scale in the car where Joseph
7 Copeland died. So he had to come up with a story
8 that would fit that.

9 So, now we're on story number two. He says,
10 "Oh, I served some weed and then I went back to my
11 girlfriend." Half lie. He served some weed but he
12 didn't go back to Shy'Tavia. He wasn't in there
13 playing the hero, covering the children on the floor
14 when the shots rang out. No, those kids were
15 "running to their momma" is what Shy'Tavia told you.
16 He wasn't running out with Kevin James out the door
17 to go save the day. Kevin James was by himself.
18 Another lie.

19 He said that, "At the time the shots rang out
20 that he was with Shy'Tavia, her dad, her mom, Reggie
21 and the kids," it's a lie. "Reggie was in the
22 kitchen." Lie. "Kevin James and I went out the
23 door and looked around." Lie. And that, "Shy'Tavia
24 left with me to go back to my house." Lie.

JURY TRIAL

1 So when you're determining who's believable if
2 you're determining who has something to hide, the
3 Defendant is lying every time he opens his mouth.
4 But back to Micheal Allen. You don't have to
5 believe Micheal Allen in a vacuum, because we also
6 have science, and we also have physical evidence.
7 And when you compare what Micheal Allen told you
8 what happened with the physical evidence, and the
9 science they match. What they don't match is
10 anything that he said.

11 So let's talk about some of the things that
12 came out that Micheal Allen said, that we can verify
13 through science and through physical evidence. Now,
14 you've heard from a crime scene analyst for SLED.
15 You heard from scientists that handles fingerprints
16 and look for fingerprints. You heard from
17 scientists that deal with DNA and identifying people
18 through their DNA. And at the beginning of the
19 trial, and I believe they're some of the questions
20 Ms. Steiner made comments that, "They're all part of
21 the police." Well that's just not fair. Each of
22 those scientists, Dr. Rose, a doctor of medicine.
23 They're not law enforcement, they don't investigate,
24 they're not arresting people. They don't have an

1 end goal in mind. They are looking at data and they
2 are interpreting data as one of them said, "good,
3 bad or ugly." They don't have a dog in this fight.
4 And yet, what they found, matches what the
5 eyewitness saw. You may remember that one of the
6 scientist's said, "We don't get told what happened."
7 Chad Smith, the firearm's expert said, "I don't know
8 where these things are found I just look at them
9 when they're given to me." So he doesn't know.
10 Those scientists don't know what they're comparing
11 to. They're not comparing, they're just looking at
12 the evidence and the facts.

13 So first, Micheal Allen tells you that, "They
14 go over to the Bricks to get weed." The physical
15 evidence backs that up. The phone conversations
16 with Reggie Jones about how much, where you at, on
17 the way. The Cash App transaction from Joseph
18 Copeland's phone to Kemontee Blocker. And that
19 little baggie of weed in the passenger floorboard
20 are all physical items that show you that Micheal
21 Allen is telling the truth. Now, as we progress,
22 Micheal Allen says that the guy that served the
23 weed, that weighed it in the back seat, was the one
24 with this unique gun. Now we know that weed was

JURY TRIAL

1 weighed out and served in the back seat 'cause
2 there's pictures. When Maggie Pauli processed the
3 car, she said there were some crumbs of weed in this
4 back seat area. There was a scale in that back seat
5 area with his fingerprint on it, and when confronted
6 with that he said, "Oh, oh, yeah, that is mine, I
7 did leave that there. I had two scales so I didn't
8 realize." So he's admitting that's his scale,
9 that's his fingerprint, he was in the back seat of
10 that car. That shows you that what Micheal Allen is
11 saying is true.

12 Now, Micheal Allen describes that particular
13 person, this Defendant, as having a red Glock or red
14 gun with a laser. That's really specific and that's
15 really unique. What's also really specific and
16 really unique is the Defendant, a week prior on
17 April 17th, 2021, sitting in a car with his
18 girlfriend, you saw the videos where that gun was in
19 his hands. She told you in this picture he's
20 pointing it; a red gun with a Glock logo, with a
21 laser on the gun. Micheal Allen wasn't in this car
22 with Shy'Tavia and the Defendant a week prior. He
23 didn't have these pictures. He had no idea that
24 there would be other evidence saying that what he

1 said was true. He just told you what he saw. To
2 describe that specific of a gun -- and that specific
3 of a gun is the gun that the Defendant is waving all
4 over the place, almost like Vanna White putting it
5 on display for you.

6 Micheal Allen said, "That when the shooting
7 started, that Reggie Jones ran sideways to the right
8 away from the car and that as he ran he was firing
9 backwards behind him." Chad Smith analyzed 31 shell
10 casings from that crime scene and three shell
11 casings he could say definitively "were fired by the
12 gun found in Reggie's home." That SCCY .9-
13 millimeter, Reggie's gun, three casings from that
14 scene, shell casings, were ejected from that gun as
15 being fired. And you heard Eleanor Hunter tell you
16 where those shell casings were found: "were over to
17 the right between the Barnwell building and the next
18 building" exactly where Micheal Allen told you
19 Reggie Jones was running. Yet again the physical
20 evidence corroborates the eyewitness testimony.

21 Now, Micheal Allen also told you that Kemontee
22 Blocker didn't run. He didn't run shooting behind
23 him, not even looking at what's going on. That he
24 stood directly in front of the vehicle, and that he

JURY TRIAL

1 fired directly into the vehicle and at that time he
2 heard his best friend (gasps).

3 When you look at the physical evidence, the
4 gunshots that actually struck this vehicle are all
5 in the front. There's no gunshots coming in through
6 the side of the passenger-doors over here from
7 somebody who was running away to the right. All of
8 these bullet holes -- these defects as they were
9 described, are in the front of this Ford Explorer.

10 Maggie Pauli told you that she was able to
11 determine that nine of these defects came from
12 outside the car coming in, and that only two, the
13 two exit holes and the two shell casings found in
14 the back seat were from Micheal as he was also
15 trying to back up and drive away. Micheal told you
16 -- and I want to get his words exactly right, he
17 said, "I just reacted to who I believed was shooting
18 at me." So when Micheal Allen just reacted to who
19 he believed was shooting at him, he didn't shoot
20 sideways after Reggie Jones who was running away.
21 He shot straight through the front of his own
22 windshield back at the person who was shooting at
23 him, Kemontee Blocker.

24 He described how Kemontee "upped" or raised the

1 gun. Nine defects or bullet holes later the
2 Defendant hit his target. He hit where he was
3 aiming. That's not an accident, that is not someone
4 who freaked out and not knowing what's going on,
5 that is someone acting with intent, center mass, and
6 head shot.

7 Chad Smith also told you that, "Directly in
8 front of that Ford Explorer there were 12 shell
9 casings" that he could say "were all fired by the
10 same gun." Significantly, they were all fired by
11 the same gun that wasn't one of the three guns he
12 had to look at. It wasn't -- they weren't fired
13 from Reggie's gun. They weren't fired from Micheal
14 Allen's gun. They weren't .40 caliber, they weren't
15 fired from JoJo's gun. And the second gun that was
16 found in the bag that Micheal Allen dumped, didn't
17 fire anything. So it's not even involved. So
18 these 12 rounds that were fired directly in front of
19 the Ford Explorer, were fired by a gun that Chad
20 Smith didn't have. A gun that Chad Smith didn't
21 have was a red Glock with a laser on it. Because
22 you heard that by the time that this Defendant got
23 arrested Reggie Jones had already been arrested and
24 they found his gun. This Defendant had -- and his

JURY TRIAL

1 grandmomma consented for them to search the house
2 and they found the gun. This Defendant had 10 days
3 to get rid of this red Glock with a laser. And
4 there was no consent to search when he got arrested.

5 Chad Smith told you that, "Those 12 shell
6 casings in front of the vehicle all had the same
7 primer strike." And I don't have his bullet to
8 demonstrate what he was talking about, but they are
9 on the base of that casing, the mark that that
10 specific gun makes it's unique, and he said that it
11 was indicative of that old-style Glock. He
12 specifically said that "The Glock's are so common
13 that they call it the Glock-style primer strike."
14 They don't call it the "Tenoglio something-Italian
15 primer strike," they call it the "Glock-style
16 strike." And Mr. Bush when he was talking to Chad
17 Smith, went through the list of well there are
18 technically some other guns that could have made
19 this mark. And Chad Smith said, "sure." And Mr.
20 Bush read out every single one of them. But you
21 know what wasn't on that manufacturer's list of guns
22 that could've made that primer-strike mark: the
23 SCCY. Reggie's gun. That wasn't on that list
24 'cause it doesn't make that mark. But what Chad

1 Smith told you was, "That of all the guns that make
2 that mark that the Glock is the
3 most common, the most indicative, so much so that
4 they call it the Glock-style mark." And so yet
5 again the physical evidence, shell casings, the
6 locations of the bullet holes, that physical
7 evidence corroborates what Micheal Allen told you.
8 Micheal Allen hasn't had two different stories with
9 19 lies here and countless lies here. He has one
10 story that the science and the physical evidence
11 shows you is true.

12 Now Defense talked to you some about DNA and
13 fingerprints- and you know we've got this blood in
14 the car, and it's Joseph's blood, and everybody
15 knows it's Joseph's blood, you don't need a DNA
16 analyst to tell you that. But they also asked about
17 this DNA on the outside of the car, on the door
18 handles. And they were talking about, "Well, if you
19 had other people's DNA to compare, maybe you could
20 see if their DNA was on the outside of the car."
21 Well DNA is used when we don't know who was at a
22 crime scene and who has handled something. In this
23 case we know who was there. Micheal Allen told you
24 he was there. After being called out for lying, and

JURY TRIAL

1 lying, and lying, and lying, and lying, he finally
2 admitted he was there. His fingerprint is on
3 property inside the car and Micheal Allen, who
4 didn't even know his name, picked him out of a
5 lineup and said, "Yeah, that's the dude that was
6 there with the weed, with the red Glock with the
7 laser that was one of the two dudes that shot at
8 this car and killed my friend." So we don't need
9 DNA on the outside of the car to tell you that
10 Kemontee Blocker was at that car that night. All of
11 this other evidence, his own words tell you that.

12 Defense also talked about loading firearms and,
13 you know, why can't you get a fingerprint off of
14 these shell casings so we can see who put these
15 shell -- or these cartridges in a magazine? Well
16 you heard that fingerprints are made up of water and
17 that the two things that destroy that, well, you
18 heard that fingerprints are one of the most fragile
19 pieces of evidence that you can have. What destroys
20 water? Heat. What happens when a gun is fired and
21 one of those cartridge casings travels down the
22 barrel of the gun -- or the bullet travels down the
23 barrel of the gun and the casing gets ejected? A
24 mini explosion with high heat, and a huge volume of

1 gas that creates incredible pressure. So members of
2 the jury, finding fingerprints on those shell
3 casings is probably harder than finding a needle in
4 a haystack. These men up on the walls were all
5 judges mostly before I was born, and most of them
6 were judges before DNA profiling was a thing. Each
7 of those judges heard hundreds and hundreds of cases
8 where crimes were proven beyond a reasonable doubt
9 without DNA. DNA is a type of evidence.
10 Fingerprints are a type of evidence. But they're
11 not required to establish proof beyond a reasonable
12 doubt. This isn't CSI.

13 A couple more things that I want to address
14 with you guys. The Defense mentioned that Micheal
15 may have thought, back in 2021, that maybe Reggie
16 fired first. That maybe Reggie was the guy that
17 killed my brother. But as you'll hear from the
18 judge, and as we talked about very briefly earlier,
19 under the hand of one, hand of all, it doesn't
20 matter who fires first. It doesn't matter who fires
21 the kill shot. That when two or more people are
22 acting together, they're responsible for everything
23 done by the other person too. It doesn't matter who
24 actually commits the fatal shot.

JURY TRIAL

1 So we can talk about whether Reggie shot first,
2 but it doesn't matter because Kemontee Blocker's
3 finger on that trigger, Kemontee Blocker's
4 involvement, getting Joseph Copeland over there,
5 taking his gun, not giving it back, not leaving, and
6 then firing into that vehicle makes him every bit as
7 guilty as Reggie Jones.

8 Members of the jury, you're going to hear that
9 the State has to prove guilt beyond a reasonable
10 doubt. And that sounds -- well, I'll let the judge
11 tell you what reasonable doubt is, but what it is
12 not is beyond all doubt. It's not -- it doesn't
13 have to be 100 percent. You just have to be firmly
14 convinced that this man was involved with Reggie
15 Jones when they killed Joseph Copeland, when they
16 attempted to kill Micheal Allen, when while they
17 were armed, they took Joseph Copeland's gun, that
18 they fired into this vehicle.

19 Yesterday, right at the end of the day before
20 we
21 finished with the cross-examination of lead
22 detective Jon Eagerton, Ms. Steiner came back from a
23 break and she said, "Hey, guys, just want to let
24 y'all know it's not raining." When you're looking

1 at reasonable doubt, you don't have to have a DNA
2 analyst, a fingerprint evidence -- or fingerprint
3 analyst, come and tell you what to believe. You get
4 to use that common sense. You don't have to have
5 been there that night to watch Kemontee Blocker
6 unload this gun into Micheal Allen's car. If you go
7 to leave, whether it was yesterday or today, and as
8 you're walking out of the courthouse the floor
9 around the door is wet, people are walking in with
10 umbrellas and jackets, men because they're too
11 stubborn to use umbrellas, their shoulders are wet,
12 you know, wiping their feet off on the rug, you've
13 been in here all day you haven't seen what's going
14 on outside, and yet you know beyond a reasonable
15 doubt that it's been raining. You don't need a
16 scientist weatherman to tell you that. You don't
17 need to be standing out there watching it. You know
18 it's raining. That's beyond a reasonable doubt.

19 In this case, everything that Micheal Allen
20 told you about Kemontee Blocker's involvement and
21 Kemontee Blocker shooting into this car is supported
22 by the physical evidence that was found and the
23 scientists. That's how you know that he's telling
24 the truth. If you don't have nothing to hide, you

JURY TRIAL

1 tell the truth, right? At every step of this
2 evening, April 24th going into April 25th, 2021,
3 this Defendant had a choice. He chose to go sell
4 weed to Joseph Copeland. He chose to stay behind
5 after the transaction was done. If he thought this
6 was just about weed, why didn't go on back to his
7 girlfriend like he claimed he did? But instead he
8 stayed. He chose to be involved in a conversation
9 about guns that he and Reggie Jones initiated. They
10 brought up guns. They brought guns to a drug deal.
11 This was not just about weed. He chose to pull his
12 red Glock with a laser out. When Reggie Jones ran,
13 he chose not to run. He chose to square up directly
14 in front of his target. He chose where to aim, and
15 he hit exactly where he was aiming.

16 Kemontee Blocker is guilty of murdering 18-
17 year-old Joseph Copeland across from his middle
18 school, attempting to murder Micheal Allen, armed
19 robbery of Joseph's gun, firing his Glock over, and
20 over, and over, into that car, and possessing a
21 weapon during a violent crime. Find him guilty.

22 THE COURT: Counsel?

23 MS. STEINER: Your Honor, may I have a moment
24 to organize some things?

1 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Ladies and gentlemen
2 of the jury, y'all okay? You need a brief break
3 before we proceed? No? Everything good? Okay.

4 MS. STEINER: Your Honor, may we approach?

5 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

6 (Bench conference off
7 record.)

8 THE COURT: And Madam Clerk, my notes did
9 indicate that those exhibits were properly
10 introduced. Thank you.

11 MS. STEINER: JoJo called one of them Reggie.
12 Reggie shot first. Reggie killed my brother. Where
13 is Reggie? Reggie's not sitting over there. That's
14 Mr. Blocker. Mr. Blocker, he's not guilty.
15 Kemontee is not guilty. I recognized the other one.
16 He's the one that served us. We went to get a
17 little bit of weed. How much you want? How much
18 your quarters? 60. Aight. Sixty dollars on Cash
19 App. He put the scale in the back seat, weighed
20 everything out, just like normal, nothing was
21 suspicious, he did the Cash App, and then Reggie
22 shot my brother. The other one, Mr. Blocker, the
23 other one he looked spooked, like he didn't know
24 what the hell just happened. There's zero evidence

JURY TRIAL

1 that Reggie and Kemontee planned an armed robbery
2 and attempted murder, a murder, to shoot inside that
3 car.

4 Kemontee is not guilty of murder, attempted
5 murder, discharging a weapon into a vehicle,
6 possession of a weapon during the commission of a
7 violent crime, and armed robbery. You might not
8 agree or understand Mr. Blocker's lifestyle but
9 that's not on trial this week. That's not what
10 y'all are here to judge. Y'all are here to judge
11 the evidence that was presented on that witness
12 stand by the State. The State has been on trial
13 this week. It's their burden to prove their case.
14 They have to score a touchdown. They can't score a
15 touchdown, if you stop at the 10-yard line. They
16 haven't met their burden. They haven't proved their
17 case beyond a reasonable doubt. The best way you
18 know they haven't, I don't know what the hell
19 happened either, I'm sure y'all don't. No one there
20 told us definitively what happened. No one told us
21 what the State's trying to say, but the bullet in
22 JoJo that went from right to left and slightly
23 downward, no one said that that came through the
24 windshield, that wasn't in evidence. But let's talk

1 about what the evidence actually showed us. It
2 shows us that JoJo, he initiated the weed deal.
3 They weren't lured. No one tried to bring them to
4 Kemontee and Reggie. JoJo went on Snapchat, went on
5 Facebook to find someone to buy weed. JoJo and
6 Micheal Allen had not one, not two, but three guns
7 with them to buy \$60 worth of weed. And that third
8 gun -- it was a stolen gun from his girlfriend. Mr.
9 Rittgers has told you that he didn't want to go to a
10 weed deal without having a firearm, so he needed
11 that third one, not what the evidence showed us, it
12 doesn't make sense. What has the evidence showed us
13 is that formerly-bigger Mike -- now just kind of
14 regular Mike, stood here with y'all -- was that
15 specifically where he parked and his response was,
16 maybe in (inaudible). He didn't know where he
17 parked. The State is trying to say that it had to
18 have been here. That had to have been here 'cause
19 that's what makes Kemontee guilty. But that's not
20 what the science shows us. The science shows us
21 that he parked somewhere over here. He parked where
22 all the shell casings were. He parked over here
23 where Reggie shot at them.

24 How do we know that he parked over here? The

JURY TRIAL

1 science. Eleanor Hunter told you that, "There
2 weren't any bullet holes in apartment 509, 511, 515,
3 all the apartments, no bullet holes in any of them."
4 Micheal Allen told you that he shot eight times.
5 And not only did he shoot eight times but he's left-
6 handed, so if he's in the driver's seat with the
7 windows down, like he said they were, he was
8 shooting out the window, and if there were
9 apartments in front of him there would've been
10 bullet holes. No bullet holes in any of the
11 apartments. That had to have been -- had to have
12 been over here where there's no apartments. So what
13 does the science tell you, Kemontee was scared as
14 hell and didn't know what happened and ran away.

15 Micheal Allen told you that he shot twice out
16 the windshield. No bullet holes. He told you he
17 "shot eight times" in total, no bullet holes in any
18 of the apartments, none. The State is trying to get
19 you to believe that there were nine different shots
20 that were fired into the Explorer. That's just not
21 true. That's not what their expert said. Their
22 expert said, "That there were two shots in through
23 the windshield that shot -- that went into the A-
24 pillar that was still there" and the shot that went

1 into the engine block that's who knows where, but
2 didn't go into the passenger compartment.

3 Those two shots that were through the
4 windshield, they fragmented. Agent Smith told you
5 all about with this nice little model, about the
6 jacket that comes off, and how oftentimes when
7 bullets hit something they fragment -- the jackets
8 fragment. It's all fragments. You saw that they
9 tested the different fragments that were inside the
10 car. Those fragments came off, they hit different
11 locations. There weren't nine shots. There were
12 two and those two slugs, the projectiles, those were
13 recovered. Those were in the middle row of the
14 middle seat in the speaker box. They were
15 recovered. Those are accounted for.

16 The science never told us that JoJo was killed
17 with the shot through the windshield. Reggie's SCCY
18 was the only gun that we've matched the shell
19 casings to, everything else that Agent Smith
20 testified about, other than there being two
21 additional firearms, was that everything else was
22 inconclusive. He gave us a lot of information, but
23 the majority of his results were inconclusive. In
24 fact, he was the one that told you all that he

JURY TRIAL

1 wasn't going to try to say the things that Mr.
2 Rittgers was trying to get him to say. He stuck
3 to the facts. He stuck to the science. He couldn't
4 commit to things that he didn't know for certain.

5 We talked a little bit about the alleged armed
6 robbery. Insults, that's not intimidation, that's
7 not threats, that's violence, it's insults. When
8 you hand something over to someone willingly and you
9 swap guns, that's not an armed robbery. It's just
10 not.

11 Now let's talk about what the evidence shows us
12 about JoJo and Micheal Allen. We already know that
13 they had three guns. We also know Mike hid evidence
14 -- so very neatly placed after midnight under a
15 bush. Mike's not a doctor. He didn't know whether
16 an ambulance ride, or a 911 call, or the emergency
17 room could save his best friend. Mike went home and
18 lied to the police. He told you while he was
19 standing up there that he, "Withheld as much as I
20 could and that he needed to think about what my
21 options were, and talk to JoJo's family and his
22 family to come up with a plan before going to his
23 interview." Planning something to hide.

24 Let's talk about what law enforcement didn't

1 do. Or as Agent Smith said, "We don't know until we
2 look. We don't know until we try." They didn't
3 send that jacket from marker one to SLED. In fact,
4 you heard Kristin Hontz tell you that she was
5 specifically told that, "That wasn't of any
6 evidentiary value." They didn't even include it in
7 their PowerPoint. They didn't send that fragment of
8 the jacket from the hoodie that JoJo was wearing to
9 SLED. They didn't try to get any information from
10 that. They didn't try to get any information from
11 the shell casings.

12 You heard an agent from SLED say that she
13 "didn't get any fingerprint cards" -- or he didn't
14 get any fingerprint cards to match. He didn't get
15 fingerprints to confirm anything. He had prints,
16 didn't get any fingerprints to confirm. There is no
17 DNA to confirm anything either. They had samples
18 that could've been tested, but the DNA wasn't
19 (inaudible) enough. There weren't any search
20 warrants done. Police chose not to go search
21 Kemontee's house. They chose not to go search
22 Micheal Allen's house.

23 We don't know until we try. What else did the
24 State not do? This is their case, they're on trial,

JURY TRIAL

1 remember. They played Kemontee's interview for you
2 but they didn't play Reggie's. They didn't play any
3 of the times that Micheal Allen talked to police on
4 body worn camera.

5 MS. HAMMACK: Objection.

6 THE COURT: The basis of your objection?

7 MS. HAMMACK: Mischaracterizing the law and
8 what the State is allowed to do in Court.

9 THE COURT: Sustained. Move on, Counsel.

10 MS. STEINER: What else didn't they want you
11 to see? They didn't want you to see the truth that
12 JoJo (inaudible) Reggie alone. They also didn't
13 want you to have into evidence, the fragments that
14 were from marker one and the fragments that were
15 from the hoodie.

16 Let's talk a little bit about what each witness
17 said. And this will be brief, I promise. Maggie
18 Pauli she said -- the crime scene analyst lady, she
19 said that, "Defect F1 were still in the A-frame."
20 She said that, "Defect G and H were in the car and
21 those were the projectiles that were recovered."
22 She didn't tell you that those weren't the ones from
23 defects D and E. She never made a determination of
24 the timing of the shots. She never testified about

1 whether that was a fragment or even a piece of glass
2 that went into the dash for that defect. She didn't
3 scale that defect in the headrest. That wasn't a
4 bullet hole. I mean, come on. That wasn't a bullet
5 hole.

6 We already talked a little bit about Eleanor
7 Hunter, she told you that, "There weren't any bullet
8 holes in any of the apartments." She told you that,
9 "She never got any GSR from anybody." She told you
10 that she, "Never tried to swab or fingerprint
11 anything."

12 Agent Hefney, she told you that, "Mr. Blocker's
13 DNA wasn't on anything." Agent Smith, we talked
14 about him a lot already, but he stuck to his guns,
15 since he's a gun guy. But, he kept his convictions.
16 He didn't stray from the science. Use your common
17 sense. Use your common sense. Said that to you
18 before, I'm saying it to you again. What makes
19 sense with the evidence is that Kemontee was scared
20 as hell. He ran. It's the only way that it fits
21 with both the testimonial evidence and the physical
22 evidence that we have.

23 Kemontee, he's not guilty. The best way that
24 you know that he is not guilty is after three years

JURY TRIAL

1 of planning, to think about what he was going to say
2 in this courtroom in order to get justice for his
3 best friend, Mr. Allen, sat on the witness stand and
4 never said that's the guy that shot my brother. He
5 never said that. And he didn't say that because it
6 wasn't true. Kemontee is not guilty. He is not
7 guilty. Thank you.

8 THE COURT: Rebut?

9 MS. HAMMACK: Your Honor, I don't believe I
10 have the option to reply, but I would like
11 (inaudible) on the (inaudible).

12 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am, that's fine. Ladies
13 and gentlemen of the jury, it's now time for me to
14 charge you on the law in this case. The indictments
15 in this case alleged several different offenses
16 against the Defendant.

17 The charges are murder, attempted murder, armed
18 robbery, possession of a weapon during the
19 commission of a violent crime, and discharging a
20 firearm into an occupied vehicle.

21 I remind you that the fact that the Defendant
22 was arrested, charged, and indicted is not evidence
23 and cannot be considered by you as evidence of
24 guilt, nor does it create any presumption or

1 inference of guilt. These documents are simply the
2 formal written instruments which contain the charges
3 made against the Defendant. It is the formal
4 document by which this case is brought into court.

5 Each indictment charges a separate distinct
6 offense. You must decide each indictment separately
7 on the evidence and the law applicable to it,
8 uninfluenced by your decision as to any other
9 indictment.

10 The Defendant may be convicted or acquitted on
11 any or all of the offenses charged. You will be
12 asked to write a separate verdict of guilty or not
13 guilty for each indictment. The Defendant has pled
14 not guilty to these indictments and that plea puts
15 the burden on the State to prove the Defendant
16 guilty. A person charged with committing a criminal
17 offense in South Carolina is never required to prove
18 himmsself innocent.

19 I charge you that as an important rule of the
20 law that a defendant in a criminal trial, no matter
21 what the seriousness of the charge may be, will
22 always be presumed to be innocent of the crime for
23 which the indictment was issued, unless guilt has
24 been proven by evidence satisfying you of that guilt

JURY TRIAL

1 beyond a reasonable doubt.

2 This presumption of innocence does not end when
3 you begin your deliberations but it accompanies the
4 Defendant throughout the trial until you reach a
5 verdict of guilt based on evidence satisfying you of
6 that guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

7 The presumption of innocence is like a robe of
8 righteousness placed about the shoulders of the
9 Defendant which remains with the Defendant until it
10 has been stripped from the Defendant by evidence
11 satisfying you of defendant's guilt beyond a
12 reasonable doubt. The presumption of innocence is
13 not a mere legal theory. It's not just a legal
14 phrase. It is a substantial right to which every
15 Defendant is entitled to unless you the jury, are
16 satisfied from the evidence of the Defendant's guilt
17 beyond a reasonable doubt.

18 The State had the burden of proving the
19 Defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Some of
20 you may have served as jurors in civil cases where
21 you were told that it was only necessary to prove
22 that a fact is more likely true than not true, such
23 as by the greater weight or the preponderance of the
24 evidence. In criminal cases, the State's proof must

1 be more powerful than that, it must be beyond a
2 reasonable doubt.

3 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is proof that
4 leaves you firmly convinced of the Defendant's
5 guilt. There are very few things in this world that
6 we know with absolute certainty. And in criminal
7 cases, the law does not require that proof -- that
8 proof that overcome every possible doubt.

9 If based on your consideration of the evidence
10 you are firmly convinced that the Defendant is
11 guilty of the crime charged, you must find the
12 Defendant guilty. If on the other hand you think
13 there is a real possibility the Defendant is not
14 guilty, you must give the Defendant the benefit of
15 the doubt and find him not guilty. I remind you
16 that during this trial, you and I have certain
17 duties to perform. As a trial judge, it's my
18 responsibility to preside over the trial and I also
19 have the duty to rule on the admissibility of
20 evidence. You are to consider only the competent
21 evidence before you. You are to consider only the
22 testimony which has been presented from the witness
23 stand, any exhibits which have been made part of the
24 record, and any stipulations of Counsel.

JURY TRIAL

1 I have the additional duty to charge you the
2 law. As the presiding judge I'm the sole judge of
3 the law and it is your duty as jurors, to accept and
4 to apply the law, as I now state it to you. If you
5 already have any idea as to what the law is or what
6 the law ought to be and it does not agree with what
7 I now tell you the law is, you must accept and
8 abandon this idea because you are sworn to accept
9 the law and apply the law exactly as I state it to
10 you.

11 In every case tried before a jury, the jury
12 becomes the sole and exclusive judge of the facts.
13 A trial judge cannot intimate, state, comment on or
14 make any statement to a trial jury about the facts.
15 Since you, the jury, are the sole judges of the
16 facts you're not interfere from what I have said
17 during the process of this trial and only upon the
18 admissibility of evidence or otherwise or anything
19 that I say now during the course of this instruction
20 to you, that I have any opinion about the facts.

21 The law does not allow me to have an opinion
22 about the facts. This is a matter solely for you,
23 the jury, to determine. As jurors, it is your duty
24 to determine the effect, value, weight, and truth of

1 the evidence. There are two types of evidence
2 generally presented during a trial, direct evidence
3 and circumstantial evidence. Direct evidence
4 directly proves the existence of a fact and does not
5 require deduction. Circumstantial evidence is proof
6 of a chain of facts and circumstances indicating the
7 existence of a fact.

8 Crimes may be proven by circumstantial
9 evidence. The law makes no distinction between the
10 weight or value to be given either to direct or
11 circumstantial evidence. However, to the extent the
12 State relies on circumstantial evidence, the
13 circumstances must be consistent with each other,
14 and when taken together, point conclusively to the
15 guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt.

16 If these circumstances merely portray the
17 Defendant's behavior is suspicious the proof has
18 failed.

19 The State has the burden of proving the
20 Defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This
21 burden rests with the State regardless of whether
22 the State relies on direct evidence, circumstantial
23 evidence, or some combination of the two.

24 Necessarily, you must determine the credibility

JURY TRIAL

1 of witnesses who have testified. Credibility simply
2 means believability. It becomes your duty as
3 jurors, to analyze and to evaluate the evidence and
4 determine which evidence convinces you of its truth.

5
6 In determining the believability of witnesses
7 who have testified, you may believe one witness over
8 several witnesses, or several witnesses over one
9 witness. You may believe a part of the testimony of
10 a witness, and reject the remaining part of the
11 testimony of that same witness. You may believe the
12 testimony of a witness in its entirety, or you may
13 reject the testimony of a witness. You may consider
14 whether any witness has exhibited to you any
15 interest, bias, prejudice, or other motive. You may
16 also consider the appearance and the manner of a
17 witness while on the witness stand. There has been
18 evidence presented that a witness had made prior
19 statements, which are not consistent with the
20 witness's present testimony. You may use this
21 evidence to decide whether to believe the witness.
22 You may also use evidence of the earlier
23 contradictory statements, to determine the truth of
24 their statement. It is up to you to decide whether

1 to believe the earlier statements or the testimony
2 given at trial. If the witness has shown to have
3 knowingly testified untruthfully concerning any
4 material matter, you may consider this in
5 determining whether to trust the witness's testimony
6 as to other matters. You may reject all testimony
7 of that witness, or give all or part of the
8 testimony the weight that you think it deserves.

9 Rules of Evidence ordinarily do not permit
10 witnesses to testify as to opinions or conclusions.
11 And the exception to this rule exists for witnesses
12 that we call expert witnesses. A witness who by
13 education and experience has become an expert in
14 some art, science, profession, or calling may state
15 an opinion as to relevant material matter, in which
16 the witness claims to be an expert, and may also
17 state the reasons for that opinion.

18 You should consider any expert opinion received
19 into evidence and like any other evidence, give it
20 the weight that you think it deserves. If you
21 decide that the opinion of an expert witness is not
22 based on sufficient education and experience, or if
23 you conclude that the reasons given in support of
24 the opinion are not sound, or that the opinion is

JURY TRIAL

1 weighed by other evidence, you may disregard the
2 opinion entirely. An expert witness's testimony is
3 to be given no greater weight than that of other
4 witnesses simply because the witness is an expert.
5 Further you are not required to accept an expert's
6 Opinion, even though it's uncontradicted.

7 A statement alleged to have been made by the
8 Defendant has been admitted into evidence upon the
9 Court's determination that the statement was
10 voluntary and is admissible. However, you must
11 decide what weight, if any, should be given to the
12 alleged statement based on its reliability. You may
13 consider both the characteristics of the Defendant
14 and the details of the questioning. Some of the
15 factors of credibility may include the age of the
16 Defendant. The Defendant's education or lack of
17 education. The Defendant's mental ability or
18 capacity. The Defendant's IQ or intelligence. The
19 Defendant's background and environment. The place
20 and the length of the detention. The nature of the
21 questioning and the advice, or lack thereof to the
22 Defendant of his Constitutional rights including but
23 not limited to the right to remain silent. That any
24 statement could be used against him in a court of

1 law. The right to have a lawyer present. That if
2 he could not afford a lawyer one would be appointed
3 to represent him without any cost. And that he
4 could stop making a statement at any time.

5 I instruct you and emphasize that the fact that
6 the Defendant did not testify is not a factor to be
7 considered by you in any way in your deliberation
8 and in your consideration on the question of guilt
9 or innocence of the Defendant. It must not be
10 considered by you in any manner whatsoever. A
11 defendant has the constitutional right to remain
12 silent and the assertion of this right must not be
13 considered by you in the deliberations.

14 I repeat, under your oath, you're to draw no
15 conclusion whatsoever from the fact that the
16 Defendant in this case did not testify. The fact
17 that the Defendant did not testify, should not even
18 be discussed in the jury room. The burden of proof,
19 as I have stated to you, is on the State. The
20 Defendant is not required to prove his innocence.
21 The burden of proof remains on the State to prove
22 guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

23 If a crime is committed by two or more people
24 who are acting together in committing a crime, the

JURY TRIAL

1 hand of one is the act of all. A person who joins
2 with another to commit an unlawful act, is
3 criminally responsible for everything done by the
4 other person which happens as a probable natural
5 consequence of the acts done in carrying out the
6 common plan and purpose. If two or more people are
7 together, acting together, assisting each other in
8 committing the offense, the act of one is the act of
9 all, or as it's sometime said, the hand of one is
10 the hand of all.

11 Prior knowledge that a crime is going to be
12 committed without more is not sufficient to make a
13 person guilty of that crime. Mere knowledge that
14 another person is going to commit a crime, even if
15 the Defendant is present when the crime is
16 committed, is not sufficient to convict the
17 Defendant as a principle. Guilt as a principle is
18 shown by actual or constructive presence at the
19 scene as a result of prior arrangement. Therefore,
20 a finding of a prior-arranged plan or common scheme
21 is necessary for a finding of guilt as a principle.
22 The State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt by
23 competent evidence, the theory of the hand of one is
24 the hand of all.

1 A principle in a crime is not -- is one who
2 either actually commits the crime, or who is
3 present, aiding, abetting, or assisting in
4 committing the crime. When a person doesn't act in
5 the presence of and with the assistance of another
6 the act is done by both. Where two or more acting
7 with a common plan or intent are present at the
8 commission of a crime, it does not matter who
9 actually commits the crime, all are guilty. The
10 hand of one is the hand of all.

11 Present at the commission of a crime needs to
12 be sufficiently near to aid, and abet, and assist in
13 the commission of the crime. However, mere presence
14 at the scene of a crime is not sufficient to convict
15 one as a principle on the theory of aiding and
16 abetting. A Defendant's presence where a crime is
17 being committed, or mere association with a person
18 who commits a crime does not make a Defendant an
19 accomplice or an aider, and abettor of the person
20 committing the crime.

21 Intent is also a necessary element where there
22 must have been a common design or intent to commit
23 the crime, and the crime must have been committed
24 pursuant thereto with the person aiding and abetting

JURY TRIAL

1 by some overt act. Intent means intending the
2 result which actually occurs, not accidentally or
3 involuntarily. Intent may be shown by acts and
4 conduct of the Defendant in other circumstances from
5 which you may naturally and reasonably infer intent.
6 The State must prove these elements beyond a
7 reasonable doubt.

8 The identification of the Defendant as the
9 person who committed the crime charged is an issue
10 before you. The State has the burden of proving
11 identity beyond a reasonable doubt. You must be
12 satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt, the accuracy of
13 the identification of the Defendant before you may
14 convict the Defendant. Identification testimony is
15 an expression of belief or impression by a witness.

16 You must determine the accuracy of the
17 identification of the Defendant. You must consider
18 the believability of each identification witness in
19 the same weight as any other witness. You may
20 consider whether the witness had an adequate
21 opportunity to observe the offender at the time of
22 the offense. This will be affected by things like:
23 How long or short a time was available, how far or
24 close the witness was, the lighting conditions, and

1 whether the witness had the chance to see or know
2 the person in the past.

3 Once again I instruct you the burden of proof
4 on the State, extends to every element of the crime
5 charged, and this specifically includes the burden
6 of proving beyond a reasonable doubt the identity of
7 the Defendant as the person who committed the crime.

8 If after examining the testimony, you have a
9 reasonable doubt as to the accuracy of the
10 identification, you must find the Defendant not
11 guilty.

12 In order to establish criminal liability,
13 criminal intent is required. For example, the
14 mental state required to be proven by the State for
15 a particular crime might be purpose, intent,
16 knowledge, recklessness, or criminal negligence.
17 Criminal intent must be proven by the State beyond a
18 reasonable doubt. Criminal intent is always a
19 matter that must be determined by the jury from the
20 circumstances surrounding the situation. There is
21 no way to prove criminal intent to a mathematical
22 certainty. There is no way medical science can
23 dissect a person's brain, and determine what the
24 person had in mind, so the law says that criminal

JURY TRIAL

1 intent may be inferred from the circumstances shown
2 to have existed. This is how you make a
3 determination of whether or not the element
4 requiring intent was present. It is not necessary
5 to establish intent by direct and positive evidence,
6 but intent may be established by inference in the
7 same way as any other act, by taking into
8 consideration the acts of the parties in all of the
9 facts and circumstances of the case.

10 Criminal intent is a mental state. A conscious
11 wrongdoing. It is up to you to determine what the
12 Defendant intended to do based upon the
13 circumstances shown to have existed. Criminal
14 intent can arise from action or a failure to act.
15 It may arise from negligence, recklessness, or an
16 indifference to duty or to consequences, that is
17 considered by the law to be equivalent of criminal
18 intent.

19 The Defendant is charged with murder. The
20 State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the
21 Defendant killed another person with malice
22 aforethought. Malice is hatred, ill-will, or
23 hostility towards another person. It is the
24 intentional doing of a wrongful act without just

1 cause or excuse, and with an intent to inflict an
2 injury or under circumstances that the -- under
3 circumstances that the law will infer as evil
4 intent.

5 Malice aforethought does not require that
6 malice exists for any particular time before the act
7 is committed. But malice must exist in the mind of
8 the Defendant just before, and at the time of the
9 act is committed. Therefore, there must be a
10 combination of the previous evil intent and the act.
11 Malice aforethought may be expressed or inferred.
12 These terms "expressed" and "inferred" do not mean
13 different kinds of malice, but merely the manner in
14 which malice may be shown to exist. That is either
15 by direct evidence or by inference from the facts
16 and circumstances which are proved. Expressed
17 malice is shown when a person speaks words which
18 express hatred or ill-will for another, or when a
19 person, prepared beforehand to do the act which was
20 later accomplished. For example, lying in wait for
21 a person or any other acts of preparation going to
22 show that the deed was within the Defendant's mind
23 could be expressed malice.

24 Malice may be inferred from conduct showing a

JURY TRIAL

1 total disregard for human life. If that's proof
2 beyond a reasonable doubt, sufficient to raise an
3 inference of malice to your satisfaction, this
4 inference would be simply an evidentiary fact to be
5 considered by you, along with the other evidence in
6 the case, and you may give it the weight that you
7 decide it should receive.

8 The Defendant is charged with attempted murder.
9 In order to prove this crime the State must prove
10 that the Defendant attempted to kill another person
11 with malice aforethought. Malice again is hatred,
12 ill-will, or hostility towards another person. It
13 is the intentional doing of a wrongful act without
14 just cause or excuse, and with an intent to inflict
15 an injury or under circumstances that the law will
16 infer an evil intent. Malice aforethought does not
17 require that malice exists for any particular time
18 before the act is committed but malice must exist in
19 the mind of the Defendant just before and at the
20 time of the act as committed. Therefore there must
21 be a combination of previous evil intent and the
22 act. Malice aforethought must be expressed that is
23 by direct evidence. Expressed malice is shown when
24 a person speaks words which express hatred or ill-

1 will for another, or when the person prepared
2 beforehand to do the act which was later
3 accomplished. For example, lying in wait for a
4 person or any other acts in preparation, going to
5 show that the deed was within the Defendant's mind
6 would be expressed malice.

7 Attempted murder requires a specific intent to
8 kill. Specific intent means that the Defendant
9 consciously intended the completion of the act of
10 murder. The Defendant is charged with armed robbery.
11 To prove this offense the State must first prove
12 beyond a reasonable doubt that the Defendant took
13 personal property from the person or presence of
14 another person. Property is in the presence of a
15 person that is within the person's reach,
16 inspection, observation, or control so that the
17 person could, if not overcome with violence or
18 prevented by fear, keep possession of the property.
19 The State must also prove beyond a reasonable doubt,
20 that the Defendant carried the property away
21 intending to permanently deprive the owner of the
22 property, and to keep the property for the
23 Defendant's own use. The slightest removal of the
24 property or the complete possession of the property,

JURY TRIAL

1 even for an instant, by the Defendant is sufficient
2 to show a taking and carrying away of the property.
3 The taking and carrying away of the property must
4 have been done with violence or by putting the owner
5 of the property in fear of violence.

6 Finally, the State must prove beyond a
7 reasonable doubt, that the Defendant was armed with
8 a deadly weapon during the robbery. A deadly weapon
9 is any article, instrument, or substance which is
10 likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Whether
11 an instrument has been used as a deadly weapon
12 depends on the facts and circumstances of each case.
13 The following are examples of instruments which may
14 be deadly weapons: A pistol, a shotgun, a rifle, a
15 knife, a slingshot, metal knuckles, a razor,
16 gasoline, a firebomb or Molotov-type cocktail, and
17 lighter fluid. A gun may be a deadly weapon even if
18 it is not operating.

19 The Defendant is charged with possession of a
20 weapon during the commission of a violent crime or
21 attempt to commit a violent crime. The State must
22 prove beyond a reasonable doubt, that the Defendant
23 was in possession of a firearm or visibly displayed
24 what appeared to be a firearm, during the commission

1 of a violent crime. Firearm means any machine gun,
2 automatic rifle, revolver, pistol or any weapon
3 which will is designed to, or may be readily
4 converted, to expel a projectile. In order to find
5 the Defendant guilty of possession of a weapon
6 during the commission of a violent crime, you must
7 first find the Defendant guilty of either committing
8 a violent crime, or attempting the commission of a
9 violent crime. Murder is a violent crime. The
10 State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt, that the
11 weapon further advanced or helped in the commission
12 of the violent crime.

13 Lastly, the Defendant is charged with
14 discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle. The
15 State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt, that the
16 Defendant unlawfully discharged a firearm, or caused
17 a firearm to be unlawfully discharged at or into any
18 vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or other conveyance
19 device, or equipment while it is occupied. Ladies
20 and gentlemen of the jury, your verdict must be a
21 unanimous verdict, which of course means that all 12
22 of you must agree on that verdict. Let's see here,
23 Professor Helms, since you're sitting in that chair,
24 I'm going to appoint you as the Jury Foreperson. It

JURY TRIAL

1 will be your duty as the Foreperson, to write the
2 verdict on the verdict form. The verdict form is
3 rather self-explanatory. It states you're
4 instructed to answer the following questions by a
5 unanimous decisions. When you are done, the
6 Foreperson must then sign the signature line at the
7 end and it goes through each indictment. It starts
8 with indictment as to the charge of murder of Joseph
9 Copeland, we the jury, unanimously find that the
10 Defendant and circle the appropriate verdict that
11 you each come to. If you selected guilty on the
12 murder charge, then you continue to question two.
13 If you selected not guilty, then you continue to
14 question three, which is the attempted murder of
15 Micheal Allen. Question four deals with the armed
16 robbery of Joseph Copeland and indictment number
17 five -- or question five is the discharging a
18 firearm into a vehicle.

19 Once you come to your verdict, if you would
20 again check the appropriate boxes, sign, and date
21 the bottom of the verdict form here at the bottom.
22 You will also have the indictments with you in the
23 jury room, and at the very -- in the front of the
24 indictments there is a portion here that says

1 verdict, if you would write the appropriate verdict,
2 sign, and date your name as well. I'm going to ask
3 each of you to return to your jury room. Please do
4 not begin your deliberations until the bailiff or
5 clerk instructs you to do so. I may have forgotten
6 to tell you something, or instruct you something --
7 and you must also receive the exhibits. Once you
8 receive the exhibits, the indictments, and the
9 verdict form, then you may begin your deliberations.
10 When you come to that verdict, if you would knock on
11 the door, we'll bring you back in here to receive
12 your verdict. Thank you, you may return to your
13 jury room.

14 Are there any exceptions or objections to the
15 charge on the law from either the State or from the
16 Defense?

17 MS. HAMMACK: Nothing from the State.

18 MS. STEINER: I'd just like to renew my
19 previous objections.

20 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am, for the same reasons
21 as previously articulated, the same rulings apply.

22 MS. STEINER: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right, for everybody -- we get
24 together, make sure we have all the exhibits.

JURY TRIAL

1 MR. BUSH: Judge, just so you're aware, we
2 agreed that we're not going to actually send back
3 the computer with the jury.

4 THE COURT: Correct.

5 MR. BUSH: If they want to watch any of those
6 interviews or videos, happy to have them come back
7 out here and play it for them, but that way since
8 the videos of -- from Facebook had music that was
9 muted --

10 THE COURT: Right.

11 MR. BUSH: -- they don't have the ability to
12 unmute those computers.

13 THE COURT: Yes, sir, that sounds good.

14 MR. BUSH: Okay.

15 THE COURT: All right. Y'all try not to
16 wander too far, so we can find everybody when we get
17 a verdict.

18 MR. BUSH: We'll be here, Judge.

19 MS. HAMMACK: And, Your Honor, I know we've
20 got (inaudible) the evidence before we send it back.
21 Are you going to go back to speak to the alternates,
22 or are you going to pull them out?

23 THE COURT: I'm going to go ahead and let them
24 go, unless anybody has any objection, or I can keep

1 them in a separate room for a little while if
2 anything comes up.

3 MR. BUSH: I don't have any objection to you
4 letting them go, Your Honor.

5 MS. HAMMACK: I don't have any (inaudible).

6 THE COURT: All right, I'm going to go ahead
7 and do that then.

8 MR. BUSH: Thank you.

9 (Off the record.)

10 (Recess.)

11 (On the record.)

12 THE COURT: All right, Counsel, it's my
13 understanding that we have a verdict. Anything from
14 either party before I bring the jury out?

15 MS. HAMMACK: Not from the State.

16 MS. STEINER: No, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Let's have our jury, please. You
18 may have a seat. Mr. Foreman, has the jury reached
19 a verdict?

20 JURY FOREPERSON: Yes, we have, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Would you please hand it to the
22 bailiff? Madam Clerk, if you'd please publish the
23 verdict.

24 THE CLERK: Your Honor, we have the State of

JURY TRIAL

1 South Carolina versus Kemontee Devonta Blocker.
2 Indictment number 2023GS0202366, as to the charge of
3 murder of Joseph Copeland, we the jury, unanimously
4 find the Defendant guilty. Indictment number
5 2023GS0202369 as to the charge of possession of a
6 weapon during the commission of a violent crime, we
7 the jury, unanimously find the Defendant guilty.
8 Indictment number 2023GS0202367 as to the charge of
9 attempted murder of Micheal Allen, we the jury,
10 unanimously find the Defendant guilty. Indictment
11 number 2023GS0202368 as to the charge of armed
12 robbery of Joseph Copeland, we the jury, unanimously
13 find the Defendant not guilty. Indictment number
14 2023GS0202370 as to the charge of discharging a
15 firearm into a vehicle, we the jury, unanimously
16 find the Defendant guilty.

17 THE COURT: Ladies -- go ahead.

18 THE CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury,
19 if this your verdict, please indicate by raising of
20 your right hand.

21 THE COURT: Does Defense require individual
22 polling?

23 MS. STEINER: Yes, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Madam Clerk?

1 Mr. Allen, for experiencing what he experienced on
2 that night. They'll never get their son back.

3 On indictment 2023GS0202367 for attempted
4 murder, you're hereby committed to the State
5 Department of Corrections for a period of 30 years.
6 On indictment 2023GS0202370, for discharging a
7 firearm into a vehicle, you're hereby committed to
8 the State Department of Corrections for a period of
9 10 years. For indictment 2023GS0202366 for the
10 indictment for the charge of murder, you are hereby
11 committed to the State Department of Corrections for
12 the remainder of your natural life. And for
13 indictment 2023GS0202369, possession of a weapon
14 during the commission of a violent crime due to the
15 sentence for murder being life there will be no
16 sentence on that. We are adjourned on this case.

17 MS. STEINER: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 MR. BUSH: Your Honor, normally at this point,
19 Defense would likely make a motion for a new trial.
20 Ms. Steiner is protected for the next week and some
21 change, would Your Honor be inclined to allow us 14
22 to 21 days to file a written motion? We're happy to
23 have it heard either virtually or when Your Honor's
24 back in November.



Cellebrite

www.cellebrite.com

Extraction Report - Apple iPhone

Device Screenshots (7)

Chats - (7)



#	File Info	Additional file info
1	<p>Name: image0001.png</p> <p>Path: Phone/image0001.png</p> <p>MD5: a64eae6a82a65518ffd30de62042b41d</p>	<p>Note:</p> <p>Size (bytes): 370544</p> <p>Created: 4/27/2021 1:47:02 PM(UTC-4)</p> <p>Source Extraction: Device Screenshots</p> <p>Source file</p>

STATE'S EXHIBIT

20

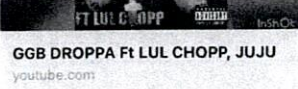
BLOCKED
 2023-05-02
 02:14

638

1:47

Reggie Jones
Active now

No Internet Connection



APP 24, 11:52 PM

Yoo I'm otw nii

Bet

Wya

SUN 12:02 AM

Passing en market

Seen

How much you want

How much yo quarters

60

Ighh

I'm here

Audio Call
22 secs

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#	File Info	Additional file info
2	Name: image0002.png Path: Phone/image0002.png MD5: 0857f90e3ab1030d7ac2fcfa550027b9	Note: Size (bytes): 230121 Created: 4/27/2021 1:47:20 PM(UTC-4) Source Extraction: Device Screenshots Source file



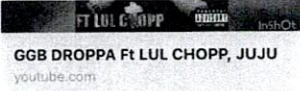
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640

1:47

Reggie Jones
Active now

No Internet Connection



APR 23, 11:52 PM

Yoo I'm otw nii

Bet

Wya

Passing en market

How much you want

SUN 12:03 AM

How much yo quarters

Seen

60

Ighh

I'm here

Audio Call
22 secs

+ 📷 🖼️ 🎤 Aa 😊 👍

#	File Info	Additional file info
4	Name: image0004.png Path: Phone/image0004.png MD5: 58a53fd43d7cdd9d50efa1e931c16077	Note: Size (bytes): 230055 Created: 4/27/2021 1:47:35 PM(UTC-4) Source Extraction: Device Screenshots Source file



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642



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#	File Info	Additional file info
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WITNESSES

DOCKET NO. 2023GS0202366

Aiken Department Of Public Safety

The State of South Carolina

Jonathan B Eagerton / *JB*

County of Aiken

Law Enforcement Case #: 21-01929

AAH

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

NOVEMBER TERM 2023

2021A0220101808

FILED November 9 2023

THE STATE

vs.

KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

Robert L. Bate
C.C.R. & G.S.
James S. Johnson
District

RECEIVED
May 21 2024
SC Court of Appeals

True Bill

CDR #: 0116

Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: November 9, 2023

Indictment for

VERDICT

MURDER

§ 16-03-0010; 16-03-0020

Foreperson of Petit Jury

BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

Date:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF AIKEN)
)

INDICTMENT FOR
MURDER
§ 16-03-0010; 16-03-0020

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on November 27, 2023, the Grand Jurors of Aiken County present upon their oath:

That **KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER** did, along with another, in Aiken County on or about April 25, 2021, feloniously, wilfully and with malice aforethought, murder [REDACTED] by means of shooting. All in violation of Section 16-3-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.



BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

WITNESSES

DOCKET NO. 2023GS0202367

Aiken Department Of Public Safety

The State of South Carolina

Jonathan B Eagerton / c *Debbis*

County of Aiken

Law Enforcement Case #: 21-01929

AAH

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

NOVEMBER TERM 2023

2021A0220101838

FILED November 9, 20 23

Robert J. White
Clerk of Court

THE STATE

vs.

Jonaya S. Johnson
Defendant

KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill

CDR #: 3410

Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: November 9, 2023

Indictment for

VERDICT

ATTEMPTED MURDER

§ 16-03-0029(A)

Foreperson of Petit Jury

BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

Date:

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF AIKEN)
)

INDICTMENT FOR
ATTEMPTED MURDER

§ 16-03-0029(A)

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on November 27, 2023, the Grand Jurors of Aiken County present upon their oath:

That **KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER** did, along with another, in Aiken County on or about April 25, 2021, feloniously and with malice aforethought, attempt to murder [REDACTED] by means of shooting. All in violation of Section 16-3-29 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

WITNESSES

DOCKET NO. 2023GSS0202369

Aiken Department Of Public Safety

The State of South Carolina

Jonathan B Eagerton / *C 20665*

County of Aiken

Law Enforcement Case #: 21-01929

AAH

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

NOVEMBER TERM 2023

2021A0220101840

FILED November 9 2023

Robert J. Burke
C.C.P. & G.S.

THE STATE

VS.

Jonas S. Johnson
Deputy Clerk

KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill

CDR #: 0549

Indictment for

Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: November 9, 2023

VERDICT

POSSESSION OF A WEAPON DURING
THE COMMISSION OF A VIOLENT
CRIME

§ 16-23-0490

BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

Foreperson of Petit Jury

Date:

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF AIKEN)
)

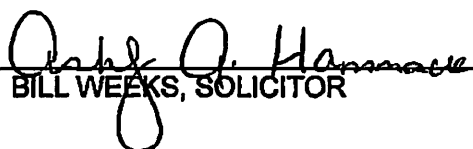
INDICTMENT FOR
 POSSESSION OF A WEAPON DURING THE
 COMMISSION OF A VIOLENT CRIME

§ 16-23-0490

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on November 27, 2023, the Grand Jurors of Aiken County present upon their oath:

That **KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER** did in Aiken County on or about April 25, 2021, possess or visibly display a firearm or visibly display a knife during the commission or attempted commission of a violent crime, to wit: Murder, all in violation of Section 16-23-490, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


 BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

WITNESSES

DOCKET NO. 2023GS0202370

Aiken Department Of Public Safety

The State of South Carolina

Jonathan B Eagerton *1C 20665*

County of Aiken

Law Enforcement Case #: 21-01929

AH

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

ARREST WARRANT NUMBER

NOVEMBER TERM 2023

2021A0220101841

FILED *November 9 2023*

THE STATE

vs.

Robert J. White
C.C.R. & G.S.
James S. Johnson

KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER

ACTION OF GRAND JURY

True Bill

CDR #: 2907

Indictment for

VERDICT

Foreperson of Grand Jury
Date: November 9, 2023

DISCHARGING A FIREARM INTO A
VEHICLE

§ 16-23-0440(B)

Foreperson of Petit Jury
Date:

BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

SC Court of Appeals

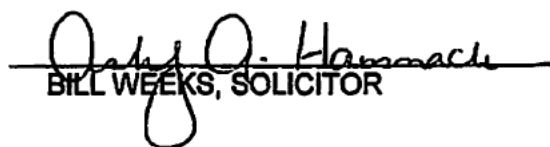
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF AIKEN)
)

INDICTMENT FOR
DISCHARGING A FIREARM INTO A VEHICLE
§ 16-23-0440(B)

At a Court of General Sessions, convened on November 27, 2023, the Grand Jurors of Aiken County present upon their oath:

That **KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER** did, along with another, in Aiken County on or about April 25, 2021, unlawfully discharge or cause to be discharged a firearm at or into a vehicle occupied by [REDACTED] All in violation of Section 16-23-440, South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended.

Against the peace and dignity of the State, and contrary to the statute in such case made and provided.


BILL WEEKS, SOLICITOR

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

MAY 21 2024

RECEIVED

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Aiken

SC Court of Appeals

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

STATE

VS.

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02366

Kemontee Devonta Blocker

AW#: 2021A0220101808

AKA: _____

Date of Offense: 4/25/2021

Race: Black Sex: M Age: _____

S.C. Code §: 16-03-0010; 16-03-0020

DOB: _____ SS#: _____

CDR Code #: 0116

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

DL#* _____ SID# SC02425682

SENTENCE SHEET

30 years - Life

*CDL Yes No CMV Yes No Hazmat Yes No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was CONVICTED OF or PLEADS

TO: Murder / Murder

In violation of § 16-03-0010; 16-03-0020 the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0116

NON-VIOLENT VIOLENT SERIOUS MOST SERIOUS Mandatory GPS § 17-25-45
(CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: As indicted, Lesser Included Offense, Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: Without Negotiations or Recommendation, Negotiated Sentence, Recommendation by the State.
ATTEST:

Orby A. Hammack 80176
Solicitor SC Bar #

PBS 78908
Attorney for Defendant SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the State Department of Correction County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of Remainder of natural life days/months/years/Time Served Youthful Offender Act not to exceed _____ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$ _____; provided that upon the service of _____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment of \$ _____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with probation for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run CONCURRENT or CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 5/16/24

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. _____ days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AIKEN

I, Robert J. Harte, Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions for Aiken County, South Carolina do hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the original documents which have been filed in my office this 20 day of May, 2024

Robert J. Harte
Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, Aiken County, S.C.
Miranda A. Ginder (MAG)
County Clerk

STATE VS. Kemontee Devonta Blocker INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02366

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

PTUP after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

- Substance Abuse Counseling Completion of GED Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp No Contact with Victim Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling May serve W/E beginning: _____
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 Public Service Employment _____ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: _____

RESTITUTION: Deferred Def. Waives Hearing Ordered

Total \$ _____ plus 20% fee: _____ \$ _____

Payment Terms: _____ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:	\$	Beginning	\$
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of	\$ _____		
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)			\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	\$100		\$ 100.00
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	\$100		\$ _____
§56-5-2985 (DUI Assessment)	\$12		\$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	\$25		\$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	\$25		\$ 25.00
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	\$150		\$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	\$41		\$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	\$50		\$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	\$40/ea		\$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD		\$ 3.75
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	\$500		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD		\$ _____
TOTAL			\$ 128.75

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Joseph J. Johnson
 Court Reporter: Digital Court Reporter

Presiding Judge: Nate' King
 Judge Code: 2116
 Sentence Date: 5/16/24

MAY 21 2024

RECEIVED

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Alken

STATE

VS.

Kemontee Devonta Blocker

AKA: _____

Race: Black Sex: M Age: _____

DOB: _____ SS#: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

DL#* _____ SID# SC02425682

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02367

AW#: 2021A0220101838

Date of Offense: 4/25/2021

S.C. Code §: 16-03-0029(A)

CDR Code #: 3410

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

SC Court of Appeals

SENTENCE SHEET

0 - 30 years

*CDL Yes No CMV Yes No Hazmat Yes No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was CONVICTED OF or PLEADS

TO: Attempted Murder

In violation of § 16-03-0029(A) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 3410

NON-VIOLENT VIOLENT SERIOUS MOST SERIOUS Mandatory GPS § 17-25-45
(CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: As indicted, Lesser Included Offense, Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: Without Negotiations or Recommendation, Negotiated Sentence, Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

Dany Q. Hammack 30176
Solicitor SC Bar #

Defendant

PBS 78908
Attorney for Defendant SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the State Department of Correction County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of 30 days/months/years/Time Served Youthful Offender Act not to exceed _____ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$____; provided that upon the service of _____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment

of \$____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with probation for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run

CONCURRENT or CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 5/16/24

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC.

1108 days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 it is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF AIKEN

I, Robert J. Harte, Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions for Aiken County, South Carolina do hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the original documents which have been filed in my office this

20 day of May 2024

Robert J. Harte
Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, Aiken County, S.C.
Miranda A. Gaudin
Deputy Clerk

STATE VS. Kemontee Devonta Blocker INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02367

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

PTUP after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

- Substance Abuse Counseling Completion of GED Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp No Contact with Victim Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling May serve W/E beginning: _____
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 Public Service Employment _____ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: _____

RESTITUTION: Deferred Def. Waives Hearing Ordered

Total \$ _____ plus 20% fee: _____ \$ _____

Payment Terms: _____ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

***Fine:**

Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of	\$ _____	Beginning	_____	\$ _____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)				\$ _____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)		\$100		\$ <u>100.00</u>
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)		\$100		\$ _____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)		\$12		\$ _____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)		\$25		\$ _____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)		\$25		\$ <u>25.00</u>
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)		\$150		\$ _____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-80(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)		\$41		\$ _____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)		\$50		\$ _____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)		\$40/ea		\$ _____
3% to County (if paid in installments)		TBD		\$ <u>3.75</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees		\$500		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund		TBD		\$ _____
TOTAL				\$ <u>128.75</u>

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: _____
Court Reporter: _____

Jonaya J. Johnson
Digital Court Reporter

Presiding Judge: _____
Judge Code: _____
Sentence Date: _____

Nate' Murphy
2160
5/16/24

MAY 21 2024

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Aiken

RECEIVED

STATE

VS.

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02369

Kemontee Devonta Blocker

AW#: 2021A0220101840

AKA: _____

Date of Offense: 4/25/2021

Race: Black Sex: M Age: _____

S.C. Code §: 16-23-0490

DOB: _____ SS#: _____

CDR Code #: 0549

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

DL#* _____ SID# SC02425682

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

SC Court of Appeals

SENTENCE SHEET

5 years

*CDL Yes No CMV Yes No Hazmat Yes No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was CONVICTED OF or PLEADS

TO: Weapons / Poss. weapon during violent crime, if not also sentenced to life without parole or death

In violation of § 16-23-0490 of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0549

NON-VIOLENT VIOLENT SERIOUS MOST SERIOUS Mandatory GPS § 17-25-45
(CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: As indicted, Lesser Included Offense, Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s Initials)

The plea is: Without Negotiations or Recommendation, Negotiated Sentence, Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:

Osley Q. Hammack 80176
Solicitor SC Bar #

PBSA 78908
Attorney for Defendant SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the State Department of Correction County Detention Center,

NO sentence as was sentenced to life for murder. NM
for a determinate term of _____ days/months/years/Time Served. Youthful Offender Act not to exceed _____ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$____; provided that upon the service of _____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment of \$____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with probation for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run

CONCURRENT or CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: _____

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC. _____ days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 It is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF AIKEN

I, Robert J. Harle, Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions for Aiken County, South Carolina do hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the original documents which have been filed in my office this 20 day of May 2024

Robert J. Harle
Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, Aiken County, SC
Miranda A. Gaudin
Deputy Clerk

STATE VS. Kemontee Devonta Blocker INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02369

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

PTUP after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

- Substance Abuse Counseling Completion of GED Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Attend Voc. Rehab. Or Job Corp No Contact with Victim Domestic Violence Intervention Program
- Mental Health Counseling May serve W/E beginning: _____
- Sex Offender Registry pursuant to S.C. Code § 23-3-430 Public Service Employment _____ days/hours
- Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-25-135.
- Other: _____

RESTITUTION: Deferred Def. Waives Hearing Ordered

Total \$ _____ plus 20% fee: _____ \$ _____

Payment Terms: _____ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:		\$	_____
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of	\$	_____	Beginning _____
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)		\$	_____
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	\$100	\$	<u>100.00</u>
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	\$100	\$	_____
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	\$12	\$	_____
§56-1-286 (DUI Breath Test)	\$25	\$	_____
§14-1-212 (Law Enforce. Funding)	\$25	\$	<u>25.00</u>
§14-1-213 (Drug Court Surcharge)	\$150	\$	_____
§34-11-70(b)and(c), and 34-11-90(c)and(d) (Admin Fraud Check Court Costs)	\$41	\$	_____
§50-21-114 (BUI Breath Test Fee)	\$50	\$	_____
§56-5-2942(J) (Vehicle Assessment)	\$40/ea	\$	_____
3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD	\$	<u>3.75</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	\$500	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD	\$	_____
TOTAL		\$	<u>129.75</u>

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Jonya D. Johnson
Court Reporter: Digital Court Reporter

Presiding Judge: Nate Neff
Judge Code: 2140
Sentence Date: 5/16/24

MAY 21 2024

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF Aiken

RECEIVED

STATE

VS.

INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02370

RECEIVED

May 21 2024

Kemontee Devonta Blocker

AW#: 2021A0220101841

Date of Offense: 4/25/2021

S.C. Code §: 16-23-0440(A)

CDR Code #: 0052

SC Court of Appeals

AKA: _____

Race: Black Sex: M Age: _____

DOB: _____ SS#: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

DL#* _____ SID# SC02425682

SENTENCE SHEET

*0-10 years and/or
\$0-\$1000*

*CDL Yes No CMV Yes No Hazmat Yes No

In disposition of the above indictment comes now the Defendant who was CONVICTED OF or PLEADS

TO: Weapons / Discharging firearms into a dwelling vehicle

In violation of § 16-23-0440(A) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 0052

NON-VIOLENT VIOLENT SERIOUS MOST SERIOUS Mandatory GPS § 17-25-45
(CSC w/minor 1st or CSC w/minor 3rd)

The charge is: As indicted, Lesser Included Offense, Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury. _____ (def.'s initials)

The plea is: Without Negotiations or Recommendation, Negotiated Sentence, Recommendation by the State.
ATTEST:

Osly Q. Hammack 80176
Solicitor SC Bar #

Defendant

PBSA 78908
Attorney for Defendant SC Bar #

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the State Department of Correction County Detention Center,

for a determinate term of 10 days/months/years/Time Served Youthful Offender Act not to exceed _____ years

and/or to pay a fine of \$_____; provided that upon the service of _____ days/months/years/Time Served and or payment

of \$_____; plus costs and assessments as applicable*; the balance is suspended with probation for _____

months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services standard conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The sentence shall run CONCURRENT or CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: 5/16/24

The Defendant is to be given credit for time served pursuant to S.C. Code § 24-13-40 to be calculated and applied by SCDOC.

1108 days/months

To include time spent on monitored house arrest prior to trial and sentencing.

The Defendant Shall be Released from County Detention Center.

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 922 and § 16-25-30 It is unlawful for a person convicted of a violation of § 16-25-20 or § 16-25-65 (Domestic Violence) to ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AIKEN

I, Robert J. Harte, Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions for Aiken County, South Carolina do hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the original documents which have been filed in my office this

20 day of May 2024
Robert J. Harte
Clerk of Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions, Aiken County, S.C.
Miranda S. Gaudin
Deputy Clerk

STATE VS. Kemontee Devonta Blocker INDICTMENT/CASE#: 2023 - GS - 02 - 02370

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

PTUP after _____ months/years

And Other Terms Listed Below:

- Substance Abuse Counseling Completion of GED Random Drug/Alcohol Testing
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- Other: _____

RESTITUTION: Deferred Def. Waives Hearing Ordered

Total \$ _____ plus 20% fee: _____ \$ _____

Payment Terms: _____ Set by SCDPPPS

Recipient: _____

*Fine:	\$	Beginning	\$
Fine may be pd. in equal consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of	\$ _____		
§14-1-206 (Assessments 107.5%)			\$
§14-1-211 (A)(1)(Conv. Surcharge)	\$100		\$ 100.00
§14-1-211 (A)(2)(DUI Surcharge)	\$100		\$
§56-5-2995 (DUI Assessment)	\$12		\$
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3% to County (if paid in installments)	TBD		\$ 3.75
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointed PD or appointed other counsel, Proviso requires \$500 be paid to Clerk during probation and shall be collected before any other fees	\$500		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> § 17-3-30(B) Unpaid Application Fee to be paid to the Public Defender Fund	TBD		\$
TOTAL			\$ 122.75


Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: Jonas S. Johnson
Court Reporter: Digital Court Reporter

Presiding Judge: Naiti Murphy
Judge Code: 21461
Sentence Date: 5/16/24

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL FOR APPELLANT

Counsel for appellant certifies that this Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by any of the parties and not any other material and that this Record on Appeal complies to the best of my ability with the April 15, 2014 order from the South Carolina Supreme Court entitled "Revised Order Concerning Personal Identifying Information and Other Sensitive Information in Appellate Court Filings."

Respectfully Submitted,



Lara M. Caudy
Senior Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

RECEIVED
Oct 17 2025
SC Court of Appeals

This 17th day of October, 2025.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

RECEIVED

Oct 17 2025

SC Court of Appeals

Appeal from Aiken County

Honorable Maite Murphy, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

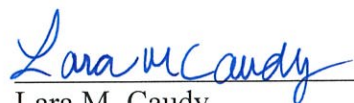
KEMONTEE DEVONTA BLOCKER,

APPELLANT.

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2024-000825

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Rule 262(a)(3) and Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR, the undersigned hereby certifies a true copy of the Record on Appeal in the above referenced case has been served upon W. Joseph Maye, Esquire, at his primary email address listed in the Attorney Information System (AIS), this 17th day of October, 2025.



Lara M. Caudy
Senior Appellate Defender

South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
PO Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT