

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Man Convicted of Malice Murder

A Douglas County jury convicted Jarrod Hayes of Malice Murder, Aggravated Assault, Felony Murder, and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. The case was tried before Judge Beau McClain beginning February 14 and concluded February 22.

On January 17, 2020, Douglas County Sheriff's Office deputies were called out to a home regarding a domestic incident. When entering the home, they found the victim laying on the floor with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. The victim and his spouse were in town for a funeral and were visiting socially with the defendant and his wife. During the evening, an argument ensued which turned physical. The defendant then left the room and retrieved a rifle. Hayes shot at the victim three times, striking him once in the abdomen. The victim also had trauma to his head and face from the physical altercation. The defendant was uninjured. The defendant waited several minutes to call 911 and hid the rifle prior to calling. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office recovered the firearm during a search of the home. Through witness statements and a thorough investigation by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, it was determined that Jarrod Hayes was the primary aggressor in the fight and was the one to fire the fatal shot.

"This case is tragic on many levels. The victim was mourning the loss of a family member when his own life was senselessly taken. We are glad our community spoke out against this loss by finding the defendant guilty of these offenses", said Douglas County District Attorney Dalia Racine.

The case was tried by Sr. Assistant District Attorney Samantha Newman and Sr. Assistant District Attorney Brook Demeke. Douglas County Sheriff's Office investigator Terrence Dukes was the lead investigator.

Sentencing for the Defendant is scheduled for March 7th. Hayes is facing a maximum of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

