



*Douglas County
District Attorney*
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Man Convicted of Kidnapping and Aggravated Assault

A Douglas County jury returned a verdict convicting forty-seven-year-old Dedrick Murray of kidnapping with bodily injury, aggravated assault, terroristic acts with serious physical injury, and stalking. The prosecution team was led by Assistant District Attorneys Roland Turner and Judith Grant. The case was investigated by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. Superior Court Judge Cynthia Adams presided over the matter.

On September 26, 2019, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the Publix parking lot located at the intersection of Annewakee Road and Chapel Hill Road in reference to a person shot. Once they arrived, they met with the victim at her vehicle. She was suffering from a gunshot wound to her left shoulder and an injury to the back of her head. The victim told the police that it was her ex-boyfriend, Dedrick Murray, who shot her and then fled.

The victim reported that the incident began when Murray came to the victim's house unannounced in the early morning hours on September 26th. Murray rang the doorbell, but the victim did not answer assuming that Murray would leave. However, a little later, the victim's home started to feel warm and stuffy so she went outside to inspect the air conditioning unit. She suspected that Murray had cut the lines as he had done in the past.

While the victim bent down to inspect the lines, Murray came up behind her with a gun. He pointed the gun at her and asked if she was ready to die. He then forced her back into the house where he ordered her to call her daughter and to say "goodbye." The victim fought with Murray and he struck her with the firearm.

Murray forced the victim into her car in the garage. Murray got in the vehicle and had the victim back the car out. The victim told the defendant he would need to shut her garage door or the neighbors would suspect something was amiss. Once Murray exited the vehicle, the victim reversed quickly down the driveway to try to get away. Murray began firing at the vehicle, striking the victim in the shoulder, as well as shattering the driver-side window and the front windshield. The victim managed to escape and drive to the Publix parking lot where she asked bystanders for help and called the police.

Douglas County District Attorney Dalia Racine stated, "The terror and fear that this victim had to endure is unspeakable. Domestic violence impacts not just the victims, but their families and the entire community. Our office is committed to standing up for victims and to doing our best to hold their abusers accountable. I am so proud of our office and our law enforcement partners for their tenacity in seeking justice."

After hearing all the evidence and testimony, the jury convicted Dedrick Murray of aggravated assault, kidnapping, stalking, and terroristic acts. Murray faces a maximum punishment of life imprisonment plus sixty-one years. Sentencing will be at a later date.