



Office of Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: John Potbury, Special Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
(810)257-3215

Defendant Pleads Guilty in 2007 Shooting Death of Store Clerk

FLINT -- Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said that justice has been served after yesterday's plea by a man charged with the murder of a liquor store owner in 2007.

Harvey Lee Johnson, 29 (d.o.b. 1-25-85) of Flint, plead no contest to second degree murder and felony firearm for the fatal shooting of Wajdi Badr during an armed robbery of Badr's store on E. Carpenter Rd. near Dort Highway in the City of Flint.

According to the police investigation and store security surveillance video, two masked men entered the Carpenter Road Market around 10:00 PM on March 7, 2007. One of the men was Johnson who was armed with a gun and the other was Marcus McGill, 29 (d.o.b. 12-29-84). According to the investigation and video, McGill jumped over the front counter and struggled with Badr who was working the cash register. As McGill and Badr struggled, Johnson fired his gun several times hitting both Badr and McGill.

Johnson and McGill then left the store in Johnson's girlfriend's car and Badr managed to call 9-1-1 but was unable to identify his shooters before dying. Johnson returned the car to his girlfriend and asked her to drive McGill to McLaren hospital to be treated for his injuries. McGill was apprehended at McLaren and later charged and plead guilty to second degree murder in 2008.

At the time of McGill's conviction, the identity of Johnson was still unknown. In 2010, however, McGill sent a letter to the Prosecutor's Office indicating he was willing to identify the shooter and cooperate in the investigation. With the assistance of McGill's cooperation and DNA evidence linking Johnson to the get-away vehicle, Prosecutor Leyton charged Johnson with the murder of Badr in 2011. A trial in 2013 ended in a hung jury and the case proceeded to yesterday's plea in Circuit Court.

"Justice does not always come quickly but we never give up," said Prosecutor Leyton. "In this case, justice has finally been served and Harvey Lee Johnson will be held accountable for the death of Mr. Badr," he said.

Johnson will be sentenced on May 5th.

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