

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Kesean McKenzie-Smith and Williams Wilkins Found Guilty of Murder

Rochester, NY- Today, a Monroe County Jury found Kesean McKenzie-Smith and Williams Wilkins Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree for the August 31, 2012 shooting death of 19 year old Montre Bradley outside of a shoe store in the Town of Gates. On that date in the early morning hours, Bradley and a group of individuals were waiting for the opening of the "Street Game" shoe store on Chili Avenue when they were approached by the defendants and robbed at gunpoint. At some point during the robbery, the defendants became involved in an altercation with the victim which ended with the victim being shot once in the lower abdomen. Bradley was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced dead. McKenzie-Smith and Wilkins were apprehended within days by the Gates Police following an investigation based on eyewitness reports. In addition to murder, the men were charged with three counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree and two counts of Attempted Robbery in the 1st Degree, both felonies. Since the men acted as accomplices, both defendants were tried with separate counsel before the same jury.

Tim Proseri, the Second Assistant District Attorney, and Sara VanStrydonck, Chief of the Child Abuse Bureau, prosecuted the case for the People.

"It's always satisfying to see justice done for a victim, but it's impossible to escape the feeling of loss that we all experience when a tragedy like this occurs," said Proseri. "Montre Bradley was a hard-working, honest young man with a very bright future. I hope today's verdict is able to provide his family and loved ones some measure of closure."

McKenzie-Smith and Wilkins will be sentenced on November 12th at 9:30am before Judge Francis A. Affronti, where they face up to 130 Years to Life in prison.

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