



OFFICE OF THE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ELKTON MAN SENTENCED TO
50 YEARS FOR 2013 MURDER**

ELKTON – On Friday, September 25, 2020, the Honorable Jane Cairns Murray of the Cecil County Circuit Court sentenced John Wallace Green III, (age 35) of Elkton, MD to the maximum possible sentence under his plea for a total of 50 years in prison. He was found guilty of Second Degree Murder and Use of a Firearm in a Crime of Violence after submitting upon an agreed statement of facts on January 3, 2020. Green had been convicted of First-Degree Murder and other offenses in a prior trial in 2014 but that conviction was reversed on appeal by the Court of Special Appeals and retrial was ordered. After extensive consultation with the victim's family, the Office of the State's Attorney agreed to a plea of Second Degree Murder and Use of a Firearm in a crime of violence.

On October 23, 2013, Jeffrey Myers was shot at the end of his driveway in Port Deposit. The police investigation developed two suspects, Jonathan Copeland and John Wallace Green. With the assistance of various witnesses, police were able to establish that Green and Copeland, along with other men, had confronted the victim at home two days earlier. They were accusing him of stealing money and drugs from them and Copeland threatened to kill Mr. Myers. On October 23, 2013, witnesses saw Copeland's black Mustang at the scene with a shorter, stockier man who fired a gun into the driver's side of Myer's truck. Cell phone records and surveillance footage put Green and Copeland together in the Mustang after the shooting.

At sentencing, Chief Felony Prosecutor, Robert Sentman, asked the court to impose a total sentence of 50 years to serve. The Maryland State Sentencing Guidelines recommended 30 years of active incarceration. The State exceeded this recommendation based on the severity of the crime, seeking maximum consecutive sentences on both counts.

State's Attorney James Dellmyer stated, "While we were prepared to retry this case as required by the appellate court, we respect and honor the rights of victims and their families who prefer a more timely and certain resolution. This plea agreement gives them an opportunity for closure. They will always remember Jeff as a beloved son, brother and friend."