



**CHRIS D. HENNIS**  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
**THIRTEENTH DISTRICT**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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May 17, 2023

On May 16, 2023, after a two day trial, a Simpson County jury found Tremaine Haynes guilty of Second Degree Murder in the shooting death of Joshua Thurman. The shooting occurred on October 31, 2021, on Big V Road in southern Simpson County. After conducting a sentencing hearing, Circuit Court Judge Stanley Sorey sentenced Haynes to serve the maximum penalty of 40 years in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections.

This case began when a 911 call was made to report a shooting that had occurred at a residence on Big V Road on October 31, 2021. Once deputies arrived, they found Joshua Thurman's body lying in the yard with what appeared to be a gunshot wound to the back of the head. Eye witness statements taken that day reported that while Mr. Thurman was speaking with a female who had just pulled up to the house in a vehicle with another female and Tremaine Haynes, that Haynes walked up behind Mr. Thurman and shot him once in the back of the head. Tremaine Haynes, and the two females that he had arrived at the property with remained at the scene until officers arrived.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Chris Purdum and Shannon Jones who did an excellent job presenting the State's case to the jury. Investigators from the Simpson County Sheriff's Department investigated the case. The investigators did a great job documenting evidence and interviewing witnesses. The thorough investigation enabled prosecutors to present a solid case against Haynes and rebut his defense of self-defense or defense of another, and helped ensure that justice was obtained for Joshua Thurman and his family for his senseless murder.