



Orange County News

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District Attorney Hoovler Announces State Prison Sentence in Attempted Murder Case

*Defendant Sentenced to 18 years in State Prison for Robbing Several People,
and Attempting to Kill One Victim with a Handgun*

Orange County District Attorney David M. Hoovler announced on Friday, July 14, 2017, Jaylin Smith, age 19, of Poughkeepsie, was sentenced by Orange County Court Judge Nicholas De Rosa to eighteen years in state prison and five years post-release supervision for having attempted to kill a robbery victim by shooting him with a handgun. On May 25, 2017, Smith had pled guilty to one count of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, in connection with the August 31, 2016 robbery of several people in the Town of Wallkill, which culminated in Smith shooting and seriously injuring and paralyzing one of the victims. In arguing for the sentence, prosecutors pointed out that Smith was a self-confessed member of the "Bloods" street gang. Prosecutors also made the court aware that State Police sources verified that Smith was also a member of the "Gruddy Gang", which is believed to be a "Bloods" affiliate.



On August 31, 2016, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Smith and an accomplice approached several people on a Town of Wallkill residential street. At gunpoint, the two men ordered their victims to stand against a nearby car, and stole property from them. After the robbery was complete, at least one of the perpetrators shot one of the victims, and that victim suffered two gunshot wounds. Bullets were removed from the victim's back, near his spine; and from his chest, near his heart. The gunshot victim is currently paralyzed. At the time he pled guilty Smith admitted having fired the shots which struck the victim.

District Attorney Hoovler thanked the New York State Police for their efforts in the investigation and prosecution of the case.

“Street gangs and the senseless gun violence that they engage in must be fought at every level,” said District Attorney Hoovler. “Gun violence, especially when it is directed at innocent people in order to take their property, deserves severe punishment. This defendant’s act of robbing his victims at gunpoint was bad enough, but he elevated the crime to an entirely new and dangerous level when he shot one of his victims after the robbery was complete. My Office takes gun violence very seriously, and the entire community will be safer during the eighteen years this defendant is in state prison.”

District Attorney Hoovler commended Assistant District Attorney Christopher Kelly for his prosecution of the case.

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