

# NEWS RELEASE

**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**March 14, 2011**

## **Murderer convicted after three-week trial, sentenced to life in prison**

From February 21, 2011, to March 11, 2011, the District Attorney's Homicide Team tried Jaquan Weathers, 27, for first-degree murder and three counts of first-degree kidnapping. The jury trial took place in courtroom 5370 at the Mecklenburg County Courthouse. The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, Superior Court Judge, presided.



**Jaquan Weathers**

Weathers killed Leroy Hodge, Jr., 63, on January 12, 2007. Weathers went to a house on Alma Court in Charlotte and forced two women to disrobe as he looked for his drugs. Weathers found Mr. Hodge hiding in a closet at the residence, shot Hodge in the neck, and left him there to die. When Weathers was arrested, he was in possession of the murder weapon.

During the trial, Weathers threatened a State's witness, causing the witness to become too frightened to continue his testimony. Weathers also made phone calls to friends and relatives from the jail during the course of the trial; in the recorded calls, Weathers instructed his friends and family to contact other prosecution witnesses to bribe or threaten them.

The jury found Weathers *guilty* of first-degree murder and three counts of first-degree kidnapping. Pursuant to North Carolina sentencing law, Weathers was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

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