

NEWS RELEASE

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March 14, 2014

Man sentenced to life in prison for domestic violence murders

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Jacquece Artavion Forrest, 29, was sentenced to life in prison today after pleading guilty to the 2012 murders of Jennifer Smith, 25, and Luc Gonzalez, 24. Forrest entered his guilty plea in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Forrest D. Bridges, Superior Court Judge.

Forrest pled guilty to two counts of first-degree murder. Judge Bridges then sentenced him to two consecutive sentences of *life in prison without the possibility of parole*.

In October 2012, Ms. Smith called 911 and said that Forrest, her ex-boyfriend, was outside her home on Malibu Drive in Charlotte and had threatened to break into her home. Police responded and searched the area but did not find Forrest.



Jacquece Forrest

Hours later, police stopped a speeding car driven by Forrest, who jumped from the vehicle and ran into an apartment before soon turning himself in to police. Because of Forrest's erratic behavior, police took him to the hospital. There, he told a nurse that he'd shot his ex-girlfriend.

Police went to Ms. Smith's home and found her body, along with the body of her coworker Mr. Gonzalez. They'd both been fatally shot with a shotgun. Forrest and Ms. Smith had a young child together, and the child was inside the home at the time of the killings.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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