

NEWS RELEASE

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Murderer convicted at trial, sentenced to life in prison

CHARLOTTE, NC – From April 25, 2011, to May 4, 2011, the District Attorney's Homicide Team tried Tyrone Johnson, 33, for the first-degree murder of Ms. Johnnie Mae Shine, 40. The jury trial took place in court room 5370 at the Mecklenburg County Court House. The Honorable F. Lane Williamson, Superior Court Judge, presided.

On May 29, 2000, Johnson, then 22 years old, killed Shine, an acquaintance, outside her home on Mimosa Avenue in Charlotte. Ms. Shine was a native Charlottean and was a grandmother of two at the time of her murder. Johnson stabbed Shine 10 times during an altercation and left the scene as Shine lay bleeding to death on her next-door neighbors' front porch. Johnson fled to New York within days.

DNA testing led to Johnson's indictment for the murder in 2009. Johnson denied any knowledge of the crime when questioned by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Homicide Detectives in 2007. At the time of the questioning, Johnson was in prison in South Carolina serving a sentence for robbery.

At trial Johnson testified that he did stab Shine but did so in self-defense. The jury found that the State proved beyond a reasonable doubt that Johnson did not act in self-defense, but rather that he acted with premeditation, deliberation, and the specific intent to kill Ms. Shine.

The jury found Johnson guilty of first-degree murder, as numerous family members of Shine's looked on. Johnson received the mandatory sentence under North Carolina law of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

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Tyrone Johnson