

NEWS RELEASE

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Demeatrius Montgomery convictions upheld by appellate court

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Today, the North Carolina Court of Appeals upheld the convictions of Demeatrius Montgomery by unanimous decision. Montgomery killed two Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers in 2007; he was convicted in Mecklenburg County and sentenced to two consecutive terms of life imprisonment on October 1, 2010.

On appeal, Montgomery challenged the trial court's findings that he was competent to stand trial, that certain character evidence of the victims should not have been admitted, and that the State's arguments during the trial were improper.

Judges Sanford L. Steelman, Jr., Martha A. Geer, and Robert N. Hunter, Jr., presided over the appeal. On behalf of the three-judge panel, Judge Steelman denied Montgomery's arguments, writing:

The trial court did not err in holding that defendant was competent to stand trial. Admission of victim character evidence did not constitute plain error. The State's arguments were not grossly improper, so as to require intervention by the trial court, *ex mero motu*.

As a result of this decision, the convictions will stand undisturbed and Montgomery will continue to serve his two life sentences in prison.

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